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ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Advisory services in the field of human rights, including the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights

Report of the Secretary-General

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Introduction

1. The United Nations programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights is a comprehensive programme aimed at providing practical assistance for the building of national and regional human rights infrastructures. Programme components focus on the incorporation of international human rights standards into national laws and policies, and on the building or strengthening of national institutions capable of protecting and promoting human rights and democracy under the rule of law. Such assistance takes the form of expert advisory services, training courses, workshops and seminars, fellowships, grants, the provision of information and documentation, and the assessment of domestic human rights needs.

2. The Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1994/69 of 9 March 1994, having made a number of recommendations relating to the comprehensive programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights, under both the United Nations regular budget and the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, requested the Secretary-General to report annually to the Commission on Human Rights on the progress made in the implementation of the programme and on the administration of the Voluntary Fund. This report is submitted in response to that request.

I. MANDATES

3. The United Nations programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 926 (X) of 14 December 1955, in which the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to make provision, at the request of Governments and with the cooperation of the specialized agencies where appropriate, for the following forms of assistance with respect to the field of human rights: (i) advisory services of experts; (ii) fellowships and scholarships; and (iii) seminars. Regional and national training courses were added in 1967 and 1986 respectively.

4. The Voluntary Fund for Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights (subsequently renamed the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights) was established by the Secretary-General on 16 November 1987 pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/38, endorsed by the Economic and Social Council decision 1987/147. The objective of the Fund is to provide additional financial support for practical activities focused on the implementation of international conventions and other international instruments on human rights promulgated by the United Nations, its specialized agencies or regional organizations.

5. Based on relevant Commission on Human Rights resolutions, practical activities to be financed by the Voluntary Fund include:

(a) Support for international cooperation aimed at building up and strengthening national and regional institutions and infrastructures which will have a long-term impact on improved implementation of international

conventions and other international instruments on human rights promulgated by the United Nations, the specialized agencies or regional organizations (resolution 1992/80, para. 16);

(b) Expert and technical assistance to Governments with a view to creating and developing the necessary infrastructures to meet international human rights standards (resolution 1990/59, para. 5);

(c) Projects and programmes that can play a catalytic role in the practical realization of internationally recognized human rights standards (resolution 1990/59, para. 7);

(d) Projects for legal protection and the strengthening of the independence of the judiciary (resolution 1992/80, para. 23);

(e) Comprehensive needs assessments and overall country programmes containing specific projects aimed at strengthening the human rights infrastructure of a country (resolution 1993/87, para. 13).

6. While the resolutions cited above refer specifically to projects financed under the Voluntary Fund, their content is equally descriptive of projects funded from other sources. Consistent with Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1993/87 and 1994/69, all activities under the programme are carried out within the common context of the comprehensive programme of advisory services and technical assistance described in this report.

7. In addition, the World Conference on Human Rights recognized the importance of advisory services and technical assistance for human rights. This is reflected throughout the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action which also called for enhancement of the programme (see A/CONF.157/23, Part II, paras. 7, 20, 22, 26, 27, 30, 33-38, 41-44, 46, 48, 49, 57, 59, 62, 63-70, 79, 81, 82).

8. With regard to technical assistance, for example, the Vienna Declaration calls for the implementation of coherent and comprehensive plans of action at the national level for the promotion and protection of human rights through the establishment of a comprehensive United Nations programme. The advisory services and technical assistance programme, according to the Declaration, should be strengthened. It further states that the Centre should make available to States, upon request, technical and financial assistance, in particular for the elaboration and implementation of coherent and comprehensive plans of action. These plans of action would integrate activities aimed at: (i) strengthening the institutions of human rights and democracy; (ii) reforming penal and correctional establishments; (iii) the legal protection of human rights; (iv) education and training of officials, lawyers, judges, security forces and others in human rights; (v) broad-based education and public information for the respect of human rights; (vi) other activities relevant to the good functioning of the rule of law (Part II, paras. 68-70).

II. FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION

9. The programme of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of Human Rights is funded from the United Nations regular budget and from the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, which began operating in 1988 and to date has received over US$13 million in pledges and contributions (see annex II). In addition, specific projects are sometimes funded by the Centre's partners in the United Nations system. In 1994, for example, technical assistance projects implemented by the Centre were funded variously by the United Nations Development Programme and by the Electoral Assistance Unit (EAU) of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat. Whatever the source of funding, projects are implemented within the common context of a single unified and comprehensive programme, administered by the Centre for Human Rights. While, consistent with resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights, a distinction is maintained between projects financed under the regular budget and the Voluntary Fund for purposes of accountability, reporting and budgetary information, the common substance and policy of the programme remain.

10. Programme development, implementation, support and follow-up are carried out by the Technical Cooperation Branch of the Centre for Human Rights, under the direction of the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights holds overall responsibility for the programme, under the authority of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The High Commissioner is mandated, under General Assembly resolution 48/141, to provide, through the Centre for Human Rights, advisory services and technical assistance at the request of States and, where appropriate, regional human rights organizations, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights, and to coordinate human rights protection and promotion activities throughout the United Nations system.

11. The Commission on Human Rights, at its forty-ninth session, recommended the establishment of a board of trustees to provide advice to the Secretary-General on the administration and operation of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation. On 17 December 1993, the Secretary-General announced the appointment of the following members of the Board of Trustees: Ms. Anne-Marie Lizin (Belgium), Mr. Kinhide Mushakoji (Japan), Mr. Luis Pérez Aguirre (Uruguay), Mr. Krzysztof Skubiszewski (Poland), and Dr. Leila Takla (Egypt). The Board, which serves in an advisory capacity to the Secretary-General, was fully constituted in the first quarter of 1994, and held its first session from 28 February to 4 March 1994 in Geneva. The second session of the Board was convened in Geneva from 7 to 10 November 1994. The activities of the Board are described in an addendum to the present report.

III. PROGRAMME APPROACH

12. Advisory services and technical cooperation activities may be seen as a complement to, but not a substitute for, the monitoring and investigating activities of the human rights programme. As emphasized in previous reports of the Secretary-General on the subject, and in Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/69, the provision of advisory services and technical assistance does not reduce a Government's responsibility for accountability

for the human rights situation and, whenever applicable, would not exempt it from scrutiny through the various monitoring procedures established by the United Nations.

13. While the programme occasionally provides grants for the support of projects initiated by NGOs, it is not, in the first instance, a funding source for projects developed outside the Centre. It is rather a source of substantive advice and assistance in the field of human rights, framed in a comprehensive programme which cooperates with Governments, at their request, through the needs assessments generated by the Centre and projects designed by it. In most cases, the Centre responds to a Government's request by conducting a careful assessment of that country's particular human rights assistance needs. Assistance programmes are then designed to address those needs in a comprehensive and coordinated way. The Centre for Human Rights itself implements all projects for which it has a unique or specific competence, drawing on the considerable expertise developed by its staff in those areas, and serves as a focal point and coordinator for other programme elements relating to the human rights needs of the country involved.

14. The programme is administered by the Centre for Human Rights from within the Technical Cooperation Branch, as noted above. The Branch carries out four complementary types of activities, covering, respectively, programme management, programme development, programme operations and programme support.

A. Programme management activities

15. To enhance the quality and efficiency of project management, the Centre arranged in November 1994 for all Professional staff to attend a training programme on the management of the project cycle at the ILO Training Centre in Turin, Italy. The programme was designed by experts in project management from the ILO Centre, in consultation with the Centre for Human Rights. This training, which will provide the basis for new project guidelines for the technical cooperation programme, included sessions on assessing human rights problems and needs for institutional development; formulating appropriate project strategies; applying the logical framework method for project design; formulating project proposals; appraising project proposals; preparing project workplans and budgets; monitoring projects and programmes; preparing progress reports; conducting self-evaluation and tripartite reviews; evaluating programmes and projects; and preparing terms of reference for independent evaluation.

B. Programme development activities

16. Programme development refers to work directed to the substantive formulation and improvement of each of the various components which make up the programme. The programme development process begins with the periodic review of existing components and of relevant resolutions of United Nations organs and bodies, as well as of trends in requests from States, in order to identify areas in need of strengthening, as well as new areas to be added.

17. Through internal research and study, consultation with external experts, the drafting of programme frameworks, the contracting of temporary consultants, the convening of expert meetings, and the drafting of manuals and

handbooks, the programme development process seeks to create a readily accessible, well-developed and documented record of the substance of each component. Well-prepared components can then be delivered through the programme's operational activities, without the need for ad hoc substantive preparation of each successive project. The programme thereby realizes benefits both in terms of resource efficiency and in the substantive quality of assistance delivered. Furthermore, components which are recorded, in both substance and approach, through model programmes, handbooks and manuals, may be more readily evaluated and revised, as needs dictate. Finally, the materials developed under programme development activities can be more easily disseminated (in the form of manuals, handbooks and model programmes), thus furthering the reach of the programme.

18. The substantive development of each component also serves as the basis for internal capacity-building within the Branch, including through the training of staff. To this end, and based upon the framework set out in this document, a staff handbook on technical cooperation will be developed to include standard substantive notes, forms and guidelines for the work of the Branch. In addition, regular staff briefings will be organized, whereby staff members with expertise in a particular area will be called upon to share that knowledge with colleagues.

19. The 19 current substantive components comprising the programme are described below. The standard programme development process is as follows (see also table 1):

Step One: Assessment of previous activities in the area in question.

Step Two: Consultations with other organizations and experts active in the field, and study of existing literature.

Step Three: Compilation of roster of experts and institutions.

Step Four: Drafting of annotated component framework.

Step Five: Convening of expert meeting.

Step Six: Multiple piloting and revision of component.

Step Seven: Preparation of manual or handbook.

Step Eight: Periodic review and revision.

Table 1

Programme Development Scheme

Step One	Step Two	Step Three	Step Four	Step Five	Step Six	Step Seven	Step Eight
Assess previous activities	Consult and study	Compile roster	Draft framework	Convene expert meeting	Pilot and revise	Manual or handbook	Periodic Review/ Revision

C. Programme operational activities

20. Programme operations represent the largest single sector of the programme, involving the active preparation and implementation of projects, country programmes, and regional activities.

21. Projects are singular, ad hoc interventions, each aimed at addressing a unique and specific need, corresponding to one of the Centre's standard programme components. Given their limited scope, they usually require relatively moderate resource expenditures and time commitments.

22. Country programmes are large-scale operations launched in countries interested in broad reform. They have often been designed for countries in a post-war era or involved in a democratic transition process, and constitute a longer-term commitment on the part of the programme. Country programmes commence with the fielding of a needs assessment mission, and are comprised of several mutually reinforcing components.

23. Regional activities focus principally on the organization of regional workshops and seminars, and are typically high-profile and, albeit infrequent in occurrence, expensive events. These regional meetings are usually mandated by the Commission on Human Rights or another United Nations body. Such workshops and seminars are also complemented by support to regional human rights institutions, which usually involves moderate levels of financial and logistical assistance.

Operational methodology

24. Each of these activities follows a progressive scheme of supervision and development with three essential components: (i) Conceptualization, (ii) Formalization and (iii) Implementation. These components are further subdivided into seven successive phases, designed to ensure proper preparation, implementation and follow-up.

Conceptualization

25. The country profile (phase 1) is a survey of the country's social, institutional and infrastructural composition. It serves as a primary support document for the Centre's internal use, as well as a source of information for

other actors within the Organization. Following the submission of a governmental request, the country profile forms the fundamental factual basis for the fielding of a needs assessment mission.

26. The needs assessment (phase 2) addresses the current challenges faced by the recipient Government, with emphasis on legal, institutional and educational needs for the improved national promotion and protection of human rights, in the short, medium and long terms. The needs assessment is intended both to provide a rational basis for drafting a project document, and to provide an opportunity to enter into dialogue with the Government and other assistance actors to define priority areas. During such missions, assessment teams meet with all interested parties, both governmental and non-governmental, and collect all available relevant documentation and legislation. The mission is followed by the compilation of collected data in a report, which also contains, an assessment of the needs identified and proposals for action. In 1994, country-wide needs assessments were conducted for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Haiti, the Russian Federation, Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

27. The project document (phase 3), initially based on the needs assessment, is the formalization in practical terms of programmes compatible with commitments made by the Centre and the needs identified by the assessment mission, taking into account the availability of adequate resources. The project document is made up of several major elements, namely the human rights context and background information on the country; the human rights needs/problems to be addressed; solutions offered by the project; target beneficiaries (direct and indirect); the long-term human rights objective; immediate objectives; the project outputs; project activities; risk factors confronting the project; the legal context of the project; the plan for project review, reporting and evaluation; the project cost-plan and the project work-plan.

Formalization

28. The cost plan (phase 4) defines the resources (financial and others) needed to implement any project or activity. The cost plan indicates the contribution of each party to the project. Generally, the recipient Government makes some contribution to the financing or the running of such activities, depending on its capacities. The Centre's contribution is either supported by the United Nations regular budget, by the Voluntary Fund or, occasionally, by outside sources (UNDP, EAU, etc.).

29. A legal agreement (phase 5) is intended to guarantee that each party will abide by its respective obligations, and that activities undertaken will be implemented fully. It is intended, as well, to clarify the status of the United Nations staff and experts participating in projects vis-à-vis the Government. The simplest and most expeditious form of agreement is embodied in an exchange of letters between the parties. This has the advantage of having the same binding power as a formal agreement without the procedural drawbacks of the latter. In exceptional cases, a more formal agreement may be indicated. In other cases, memoranda of understanding or declarations of intent may be signed by the parties.

Implementation

30. Project implementation (phase 6) depends largely on the scope of the project document on the one hand, and the availability of financial and human resources on the other. The multiplicity of tasks attributed to the staff, and typically rapidly evolving events in the field, result in this phase being the most labour-intensive in the process. For large country programmes, the implementation phase may last up to five years.

31. Evaluation (phase 7) of projects is often the last stage. In the case of long-term country programmes, however, periodic evaluations are necessary throughout the operational term, in order to ascertain the progress towards the medium- and long-term objectives. In 1994, programme evaluations were conducted for the Romania country programme and the programme of support for the Arab Institute for Human Rights.

32. The chronology of this seven-point track may be depicted in the table below:

Table 2

Project Tracking Scheme

Conceptualization			Formalization		Implementation	
Phase One	Phase Two	Phase Three	Phase Four*	Phase Five	Phase Six	Phase Seven
Country profile	Needs assessment	Project document	Cost plan	Legal agreement	Project implementation	Project evaluation

* Upon arrival at this phase, advice is sought from the Board of Trustees.

D. Programme support activities

33. Support activities under the programme include external relations and outreach, fellowships, and publications and documents, each of which is intended to bring the principles and objectives of the programme to a wider audience than would be possible through national and regional projects alone. Documents and publications produced under this sector also contribute to the impact of other activities carried out under the programme, through their distribution to the Centre's counterparts.

34. External relations and outreach are carried out through the organization of briefings, exhibitions and human rights observances; through the maintenance and servicing of a mailing list; through ongoing contacts with universities, institutes and NGOs; and through the organization of inter-agency meetings on human rights issues.

35. Fellowships are administered under the United Nations Human Rights Fellowship Programme, which was established in 1955 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 926 (X). This is an annual programme open to government nominees from all Member States.

36. The publications programme is responsible for the production of a range of materials, including the Fact Sheet series, the Ad Hoc Publications series, the Human Rights Study Series, human rights resource materials, United Nations Action in the Field of Human Rights, the Yearbook of the Human Rights Committee (known since 1988 as Official Records of the Human Rights Committee); the Yearbook on Human Rights; and other human rights publications. Detailed information on this sector is provided in a separate report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/1995/46). Documents on programme activities are drafted as required by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

IV. PROGRAMME COMPONENTS

37. The programme of advisory services and technical cooperation is composed of programme components which act as a model for the development of different types of assistance. Following is an overview of these elements. The respective activities carried out in 1994 are referred to in tables 4 and 5.

National action plans

38. In paragraph 71 of Part II of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the World Conference on Human Rights recommended that each State consider the desirability of drawing up a national action plan identifying steps whereby that State would improve the promotion and protection of human rights. To that end, the World Conference further recommended, at paragraph 68, that the Centre for Human Rights, through its advisory services and technical assistance activities, assist States in the preparation of such plans.

39. In accordance with that request, the programme can make available expert assistance in the drafting and implementation of such plans. As a first step, the Centre can conduct national needs assessments for human rights, democracy and the rule of law, and can make concrete recommendations, based upon international human rights standards, for institutional, legal, educational and other measures in the short, medium and long terms. The Centre may also act as a focal point within the United Nations system, facilitating the input of other agencies in their respective areas of expertise. At the level of implementation of the plan, the Centre can make available the various components of its advisory services and technical assistance programme, including legal assistance, institutional support, training and information activities, and may, at the request of the Government, prepare a comprehensive country programme of assistance in the field of human rights. In 1994, for example, the Centre provided financial support and participated in a national workshop organized by the Indonesian Human Rights Commission, where the country's national plan of action was discussed.

Constitutional assistance

40. Under this programme component, the Centre for Human Rights provides assistance for the inclusion of human rights norms in national constitutions, and can play a role in encouraging national consensus on the elements to be incorporated into those constitutions. Assistance for these purposes may take

the form of the advisory services of experts, the organization of conferences, the provision of human rights information and documentation, or support for public information campaigns to ensure the involvement of all sectors of society.

41. Issues addressed in the Centre's constitutional activities include legislative drafting and constitutional law; the drafting of bills of rights; the provision of justiciable remedies at law; options for the allocation and separation of governmental powers; the independence of the judiciary; the role of the judiciary in overseeing the police and prison systems; states of emergency in constitutional law; incorporating economic, social and cultural rights into constitutional law; nationality, citizenship and asylum; constitutional protection of national minorities; national human rights institutions including national commissions and ombudsman offices; trade union freedoms; constitutional protection for human rights in the administration of justice; the legal status of international norms in domestic law; permissible limitations to and derogations from respect for human rights; the application of international norms by the courts; constitutional review by the judiciary; constitutional mechanisms for equality, non-discrimination and the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination; and constitutional provisions for political pluralism.

Electoral assistance

42. Through its programme of advisory services and technical assistance, the Centre for Human Rights continues to be involved in electoral assistance. In addition, the Centre has prepared guidelines for analysis of electoral laws and procedures, has published a handbook on human rights and elections, has developed draft guidelines for human rights assessments of requests for electoral assistance, and has carried out a number of public information activities relating to human rights and elections. The Centre has also collected a number of electoral laws from democratic jurisdictions for comparative reference, and has maintained contacts with a number of independent experts and non-governmental organizations in the field.

43. The principal areas of assistance provided by the Centre for elections include legal analysis and legislative assistance with regard to electoral laws and related legislation; expert analysis and recommendations concerning the prevailing human rights atmosphere and legal and institutional needs, with particular emphasis on certain human rights seen as prerequisites for free and fair elections, including freedom of expression, information, opinion, assembly, association, non-discrimination, and general freedom from intimidation; support for civic education endeavours, including on the human rights aspects of elections; the training of public officials with key roles in elections, including electoral officials, police, the judiciary, political parties, the media, non-governmental organizations and others; and needs assessment with particular emphasis on the legal and human rights aspects of elections.

44. Electoral assistance activities represent for the Centre a single point in the democratization process, and the Centre is prepared to follow-up its involvement in elections with other forms of assistance which may be crucial

to the consolidation of democracy, by informing the States concerned that further assistance with their transition to democracy is available under the programme of advisory services and technical assistance.

45. The Centre has enjoyed close substantial cooperation with EAU and UNDP in this area, and its role in electoral assistance has been enhanced and clearly defined by those relationships. In addition, the Centre has been called upon by EAU and UNDP to assist in follow-up and report missions (e.g. Romania), electoral needs assessment (e.g. Malawi), and legal analysis (e.g. Cambodia, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau and Malawi).

46. With regard to major United Nations missions, the Centre has cooperated with UNAVEM II in Angola in arranging a pre-election seminar on democracy, human rights and free and fair elections as part of civic education efforts. The target audiences were political parties, law enforcement officials, the media, NGOs, and electoral officers at the national, provincial and municipal levels. Additionally, the Centre cooperated with UNTAC in Cambodia through public information activities aimed at audiences throughout the country, including through the translation into Khmer and distribution of human rights materials in the pre-election period. The Centre also provided detailed analytical comments on the draft electoral law for Cambodia.

Legislative reform assistance

47. As a further component of the programme, the Centre makes available international experts and specialized staff to assist Governments in the reform of legislation which has a clear impact on human rights and fundamental freedoms. The goal of such assistance is to bring such laws into conformity with international standards, as identified in United Nations and regional human rights instruments. The Centre provides commentary on drafts provided by the requesting Government and drafts recommendations which may include comparative reference to similar laws in other jurisdictions.

48. Appropriate subjects under this component include penal codes; codes of criminal procedure; prison regulations; laws regarding minority protection, laws affecting freedoms of expression, association and assembly; immigration and nationality laws; laws on the judiciary and legal practice; security legislation; and, in general, any law which may impact, directly or indirectly, on the realization of internationally protected human rights. In 1994, such assistance was provided to Albania, Belarus and the Russian Federation.

Assistance in the development and strengthening of national institutions

49. In accordance with its role as defined by the Commission on Human Rights, a central objective of the advisory services and technical assistance programme is to consolidate and strengthen the role which national institutions can play in the promotion and protection of human rights. Assistance to national institutions under the programme takes several forms. Firstly, the Centre offers its services to Governments which are considering or are in the process of establishing a national human rights institution. Assistance in such cases may be financial or may involve provision of the services of experts to advise governmental authorities on suitable models, as

well as to provide technical information and comparative legislation to facilitate the task of legislative drafting. If a national institution has already been established, the Centre is able to offer similar forms of assistance aimed at strengthening the institution and enhancing its capacity to play an effective role in the promotion and protection of human rights. In 1994, such assistance was provided in different forms to Costa Rica, Georgia, Latvia and Papua New Guinea.

50. Other activities of the advisory services and technical assistance programme related to national institutions are not oriented towards a particular country or institution but are instead aimed at promoting the concept of national human rights institutions and encouraging their wide development. To this end the Centre has produced information materials and a practical manual for those involved in the establishment and administration of national institutions. The Centre has also conducted a number of seminars and workshops to provide government officials with information and expertise in the structure and functioning of such bodies. These events have also served as useful forums within which to promote the exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment and operation of national institutions. In 1994, a regional workshop was organized in Seoul, which included topics relating to national institutions.

51. The Centre for Human Rights has developed a comprehensive programme of action for technical assistance to national institutions which now guides the elaboration and implementation of all assistance projects to national institutions. In developing the programme, the Centre focused on the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (General Assembly resolution 48/134, annex). The programme of action sets out four specific objectives: to promote the concept of national institutions; to assist in the creation of effective institutions; to assist in the strengthening of existing institutions; and to foster cooperation between institutions. Each objective is accompanied by specific components for their implementation. Expert assistance, for example, will be one component for implementing the objective of assisting in the creation of effective national institutions.

52. Assistance provided by the Centre for strengthening national institutions may include training of staff, advice on the domestic implementation of international instruments, training and assistance in the drafting of reports to United Nations treaty bodies, training and information on the effective investigation of human rights violations, training in conflict resolution, assistance in the establishment of cooperative relationships with appropriate partners, information on obtaining and managing resources, assistance in conducting reviews and evaluations, and the provision of human rights fellowships to members and staff of national institutions.

<u>The administration of justice: judges, magistrates, lawyers, prosecutors, police and prison officials</u>

53. The Centre for Human Rights, through its programme of advisory services and technical assistance, has been involved in the training of judges,

lawyers, prosecutors, police officers and prison personnel in the area of human rights in the administration of justice. Courses of this type offered by the Centre are now based upon the following elements:

(a) Collegial presentations delivered by practitioners in the relevant field;

(b) Training the trainers to build local capacity;

(c) Pedagogical techniques designed to secure the active engagement of the participants;

(d) Audience specificity in the selection of subject-matter, standards and approach;

(e) A practical approach which includes reference to means for the effective, legal and humane performance of the duties of the target audience;

(f) A comprehensive presentation of standards relevant to the duties of the target audience;

(g) Teaching to sensitize participants to the importance of human rights and their own potential for (unintentionally) committing violations;

(h) Flexibility of design and application to ensure adaptability of content, materials and approach to various cultures, levels of education and local needs;

(i) Evaluation tools, including pre- and post-course testing and course assessment.

54. The purposes of these courses are to familiarize participants with the international standards for human rights in the administration of justice, to facilitate examination of humane and effective techniques for the performance of law enforcement and of penal and judicial functions in a democratic society, and to prepare participants to include this information in their own training activities. This approach to professional training for human rights in the administration of justice has been tested for three years by the Centre in its technical cooperation activities in a number of countries, and has been subjected to a series of revisions based upon those experiences.

55. Topics covered in the Centre's courses for law enforcement officials include sources, systems and standards for international human rights in the administration of criminal justice; duties and guiding principles of ethical police conduct in democracies; use of force and firearms in law enforcement; the crime of torture; effective methods of legal and ethical interviewing; human rights during arrest and pre-trial detention; the legal status and rights of the accused; standards for search and seizure; administration of justice in situations of internal conflict; juvenile justice; policing in states of emergency; civil disorder; legal crowd control measures; protection and redress for victims; investigating human rights violations; community

policing; and human rights considerations for police command, management and control. In 1994, such courses were organized for the police in Argentina, Brazil, Egypt and Palestine and for the ONUMOZ CIVPOL in Mozambique.

56. Topics for prison officials include minimum standards for facilities for prisoners and detainees; prison health issues, including AIDS and the HIV virus; special categories of prisoners and detainees, including juveniles, women and remand prisoners; prison records; prison administration, discipline and complaints procedures; contacts with the outside world, including family, legal counsel, and medical personnel; punishment and recourse procedures; juvenile offenders; the use of force; the rights of detained and imprisoned women; and investigating violations.

57. Topics offered for judges, lawyers, magistrates and prosecutors include international sources, systems and standards for human rights in the administration of justice; human rights during criminal investigations, arrest and pre-trial detention; the independence of judges and lawyers; elements of a fair trial; juvenile justice; protection of the rights of women in the administration of justice; human rights under states of emergency; standards for the treatment of prisoners; non-custodial measures; and non-discrimination and equal justice.

58. It is essential for the good functioning of the rule of law that the armed forces be bound by the constitution and other laws of the land, that they be trained in and committed to the principles of human rights and humanitarian law attending their legitimate functions in society. The training activities for military officers which the Centre for Human Rights has carried out thus far have been provided in the context of larger exercises involving police, prison and military officials together. As the Centre's programme development activities have evolved, policies were revised to focus instead on training targeted to individual professional audiences. This approach emphasizes attention to the particular duties of the target audience and the use of consultants and trainers from the relevant field. Accordingly, the Centre's military training activities will now focus on the armed forces as a distinct professional group, and the content and approach of the courses will be targeted to the particular needs and duties of the modern soldier.

59. Traditional military training has included, in many cases, some attention to the laws of war, including the four Geneva Conventions of 1949. But human rights training per se has been conspicuously absent. Indeed, not uncommon in some military circles is the notion that human rights training and sensitization are inconsistent with effective military training. However, international human rights standards, including but not always limited to humanitarian law, do apply in situations of armed conflict and, moreover, the duties of modern professional soldiers are not limited to the waging of war. Rather, they increasingly include civil policing duties, the maintenance of order and public safety under states of emergency, and assignment to international peace-keeping operations. The effective, professional and humane performance of these duties requires a knowledge of and sensitivity to human rights standards and the skills to apply them in the daily work of the military. This is the focus of the Centre's training courses for the armed forces.

60. Furthermore, in response to requests from Governments, a number of the country programmes currently in preparation will contain military training components. The Centre has thus accelerated its programme development activities in this area, consistent with its commitment to effective technical cooperation. The meeting of senior military officers which was organized in Geneva in October 1994 contributed to the development of a training programme as described above. The first such programme has been developed for the armed forces of Burundi in response to the request from the Government.

61. The Centre for Human Rights, in consultation and collaboration with other relevant United Nations bodies, such as the Department for Peace-Keeping Operations, other organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, and institutions such as the International Institute for Humanitarian Law and the ILO Training Centre, will further develop and enhance its programme for training of armed forces, including by developing a human rights handbook, a training manual, and a model code of conduct, booklets, cards, etc. for members of armed forces.

Human rights and the resolution of conflicts between citizens and State organs

62. The Centre introduced a new programme component on conflict resolution in 1993 designed to provide participants with information on peaceful conflict resolution techniques and on the use of legal, administrative and human rights institutions for the settlement of disputes. Courses of this nature are targeted to both relevant government agencies and to certain groups in society, such as trade unions, minority groups, NGOs and political parties. The role and functions of the judiciary, national human rights institutions, administrative agencies and alternative dispute-resolution mechanisms are important topics. It may be recalled that the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1993/24, called upon the programme to provide expert assistance in the area of conflict resolution involving minorities.

Human rights support to parliament

63. Under the programme, national parliaments have received training and other support designed to assist them in carrying out their important human rights functions. This component addresses a variety of crucial issues, including information on national human rights legislation, parliamentary human rights committees, ratifications and accessions and the role of parliament in general in promoting and protecting human rights. In addition to organizing parliamentary workshops on human rights, the programme also provides human rights information and documentation to legislators, as well as advisory services on the domestic implementation of international human rights obligations. In 1994, the Centre organized, in cooperation with UNDP and UNHCR, a national human rights seminar for parliamentarians in Lithuania.

Curriculum development and education for human rights, and training of teachers and curriculum developers

64. In recognition of the importance of education for human rights, the Centre for Human Rights has developed, within its programme of advisory services and technical assistance, a range of training and development initiatives for primary, secondary and tertiary education levels. These

activities are aimed at assisting in the building of a human rights culture by encouraging the inclusion of human rights concepts in existing programmes; assisting in the adaptation or modification of curricula where necessary; and providing instruction and assistance to those persons centrally involved in the human rights educational process.

65. There are several means by which these objectives are pursued. The first is teacher training, whereby the Centre offers programmes of training for both primary and secondary school teachers. Courses can also be constructed to accommodate other groups in a position to promote human rights education and sensitize others in this field such as teacher trainers, directors of schools or of teacher-resource centres, inspectors and teachers within the relevant ministry involved in curriculum development and education.

66. In keeping with the Centre's emphasis on practicality and collegiality, all courses are conducted by international experts experienced in teaching, teacher-training and human rights. Participants are instructed in the concept of human rights and the systems which have been developed to recognize and implement these rights. Training is also provided in appropriate pedagogical techniques for imparting human rights information to students, as well as in methods for resolving conflicts both within and outside the classroom.

67. In addition to its training activities, the Centre also provides specialized assistance in national curriculum development at the primary, secondary, tertiary and non-formal levels. Such assistance can range from suggestions for including human rights concepts in civic education efforts to the development of human rights legal education courses in universities. In 1994, such assistance was provided to Albania.

Treaty reporting and international obligations, training of government officials

68. The Centre regularly organizes training activities to enable government officials to properly prepare reports required under the various international human rights treaties to which their State is a party. In some cases, courses in reporting obligations are offered at the national or regional level. In others, the Centre provides fellowships for government officials to travel to Geneva, where group training courses are held. During these courses, participants can take part in workshops with experts from the various committees, as well as with the relevant staff of the Centre. In some cases, they can attend meetings of the treaty bodies themselves. In every case, participants are provided with copies of the Centre's Manual on Human Rights Reporting.

69. Under the standard approach of the Centre to training, course participants are engaged in practical exercises which allow them to test the drafting skills learned in the course. Separate units are offered for the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Convention on the Rights of the Child; the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; and the

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. In 1994, such training courses were organized in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, for government officials from francophone Africa. In addition, the United Nations Human Rights Fellowship Programme focused on the training of government officials from around the world in the preparation of reports.

Support to NGOs and civil society

70. National and international non-governmental human rights organizations are key actors in the advisory services and technical assistance programme. NGOs both assist in the delivery of such assistance, and benefit as recipients of it. Thus, in furthering the programme's goal of strengthening civil society, the Centre is increasingly being called upon by Governments and others to provide assistance to national NGOs, in the context of its country activities, by soliciting their input, inviting them to seminars and training courses, and supporting appropriate projects developed by them. In these ways, the programme is able to contribute to the development of the capacity of national NGOs to assume more effectively their crucial role in democratic society. NGOs also contribute to the programme, at both the needs assessment and implementation phases, their considerable expertise in the form of consultants and documentation.

71. Increasingly, the Centre's country programmes involve components targeted to non-governmental human rights groups, women's organizations, labour organizations and other key actors in civil society in order to strengthen the capacity of such organizations to fulfil their legitimate and important role in generating a vigilant, continuous, informed and effective domestic demand for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Human rights and the media

72. The Centre has also introduced a programme component designed to strengthen the role of the mass media in the promotion of human rights and to inform media professionals of the content and scope of the international human rights to free expression and information. Courses and seminars offered under this programme component follow the Centre's practical approach to training, with panels of experts drawn largely from the mass media itself. Topics discussed include the situation of the press and audio-visual media in the country; public perceptions of human rights through television; constitutional provisions, press laws, and laws on freedom of information and expression; access to information; professional conduct; the problems of censorship; media and human rights education; the role of the press in the development of a pluralistic society; and obstacles to human rights reporting.

Information and documentation projects

73. The programme also assists in building the capacity to properly utilize and manage the human rights information and documentation it provides. This includes translating documentation into local languages where necessary; training in human rights informatics; and assisting in the computerization of national and regional human rights offices. This programme component is intended to increase the availability of human rights information at each

location, to strengthen information-handling capacity at those locations, and to facilitate networking among the various national and regional human rights institutions. Creating public knowledge of human rights is the central goal of the programme, which implicitly recognizes the key role of national and regional institutions, NGOs and civil society in promoting and protecting human rights. For additional information, see the annual report of the Secretary-General on public information activities in the field of human rights (E/CN.4/1995/46).

74. Assistance can also be provided to national libraries for human rights books and documentation, and support can be given for the establishment and functioning of national or regional human rights documentation institutes or centres. Such action is being undertaken, in South Africa, in cooperation with the University of Fort Hare.

75. Capacity-building activities, particularly with regard to computerization and training in information management, is a priority area of this component, in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/87, in which the Centre was invited to "give special attention to strengthening the capacity of national and regional institutions to collect and disseminate information on human rights and establish common practices for cooperation with the United Nations in this area". In 1994, the Centre financed a HURIDOCS project for strengthening the information-handling capacity of human rights NGOs and institutes in Africa and the Middle East.

Regional institutions and activities

76. In addition, the programme focuses on the development of human rights infrastructures at the regional level. This is done primarily through the organization of regional workshops and seminars, and through support to regional human rights institutions.

77. As a follow-up to the regional workshop held in Jakarta in 1993 and pursuant to Commission resolution 1993/57, the Centre also continued to provide support, through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation, for regional human rights institutions involved in educational activities.

78. In 1994, the Centre for Human Rights provided financial support to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights for the strengthening of its Information and Documentation Centre, for the organization of human rights seminars and training courses, and for the strengthening of the Commission both in terms of staffing and organizational structures necessary for the fulfilment of its mandate.

79. In 1994, the Centre also provided financial support to the Arab Institute of Human Rights in Tunis. Since its establishment in 1989, the Institute has become an important centre for human rights information in the region and has acquired a number of international partners. In order to realize the Institute's potential to become a full-fledged centre for documentation and training, the Centre continues to assist the Institute and is in fact its largest donor. The Centre is a member of the Executive Board of the Institute and sent a representative to attend its annual session. The Centre continued to provide support to the Institute for the strengthening of its human rights

documentation centre, for its programme of distribution of documents, and for the conduct of seminars and training courses in human rights. The Centre also financed the acquisition of human rights documentation; the creation of databases; press reviews; publications such as the Institute's Information Bulletin, the Arab Review of Human Rights and the Study Series on Human Rights; comparative legal studies; and the organization of a regional seminar and human rights training courses.

80. The Centre for Human Rights is also a member of the Governing Council of the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies at Banjul, and has supported the organization since its inception in 1989. The Centre provides financial assistance to the African Centre to support its human rights research, education and training activities. In 1994, a grant was provided to the African Centre to finance a workshop on international human rights procedure, and the preparatory work for a handbook on human rights education for primary and secondary schools.

Peace-keeping and training of international civil servants

81. The programme has recently expanded its activities, in accordance with the terms of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, to include human rights support within the United Nations system. In the area of peace-keeping, for example, the programme has already provided various forms of assistance to major United Nations missions in Angola, Cambodia, Eritrea, Haiti, Mozambique and South Africa. Such assistance has included the provision of human rights information, legislative analysis, training and advisory services.

82. Efforts are under way to conclude a series of agreements with a number of United Nations specialized agencies, the result of which is expected to be an increased level of cooperation between the programme and other members of the United Nations system engaged in human rights-related activities, including through the provision of human rights training to the staff of such agencies.

Needs assessments for human rights, democracy and the rule of law

83. Under the programme approach of the Centre to the provision of technical assistance, as described above, the Centre responds to most government requests by conducting a careful assessment of the country's particular human rights assistance needs. Assistance programmes are then designed to address those needs in a comprehensive and coordinated way. The Centre for Human Rights itself implements all projects for which it has a unique or specific competence, drawing on the considerable expertise developed by its staff in those areas, and serves as a focal point and coordinator for other programme elements relating to the human rights needs of the country involved.

84. Needs assessment missions conducted by the Centre are typically composed of carefully selected international experts, accompanied by specialized staff of the Technical Assistance Branch. Experts are selected on the basis of their knowledge of the domestic implementation, of international human rights standards and their familiarity with the country or region in question. During such missions, a wide range of parties are consulted, including both governmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals. The

information collected is analysed and incorporated into a detailed report, offering recommendations for specifically targeted technical assistance activities.

85. The Centre also carries out periodic and post-implementation evaluations of the country programmes implemented, in order that the effect of such programmes may be gauged and follow-up plans developed. Such activities are seen by the Centre to be crucial to ongoing efforts to strengthen and improve the programme.

Field officers and offices

86. The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action foresees the assignment of human rights officers if and when necessary to regional offices of the United Nations with the purpose of disseminating information and offering training and other technical assistance in the field of human rights upon the request of concerned Member States (part II, para. 7).

87. As the Organization continues to move toward a policy of committing itself to long-term assistance to countries emerging from crisis or undergoing democratic transition, an increase in long-term human rights technical assistance projects may also be envisaged, as is reflected in the comprehensive country programme approach adopted by the Centre. To meet the challenges presented by this development, the programme has begun to establish a broader field presence through, in selected cases, the establishment of national or regional field offices. Such operations are carried out under the direct supervision of the Centre, and are responsible for the implementation of the entire technical assistance programme, from identification of needs, to the carrying out of project elements, to reporting on projects completed. In 1994, such offices, of varying size and accompanied by programmes of varying scope, but all with technical cooperation mandates, were operating in Burundi, Cambodia, Guatemala and Malawi. Arrangements are currently under way to establish similar offices in Mongolia and the Russian Federation, and further offices are under consideration for Armenia, Azerbaijan and elsewhere.

V. SYSTEM-WIDE COOPERATION

88. The programme has enjoyed cooperation with a number of United Nations bodies and agencies, non-governmental organizations, regional institutions, universities, as well as with the International Committee of the Red Cross. This cooperation has been further enhanced by the Centre's new approach to needs assessment and project formulation, which, as noted in this report, involves the full partnership of all organizations and States involved in human rights assistance. In pursuing an integrated and coordinated approach to human rights, the programme has sought to solidify a cooperative framework which includes the sharing of expertise and resources from all available sources. Following is a tabular presentation of bodies with which the Programme cooperated in 1994:

Table 3

United Nations bodies cooperating with the programme of advisory services and technical assistance

Body	Activity
United Nations human rights treaty bodies	Country recommendation/human rights education
United Nations Electoral Assistance Unit	Electoral assistance
United Nations Department of Peace-keeping Operations	Training of peace-keepers
UNDP	All field activities
UNHCR	Legislative assistance/ immigration/needs assessment
UNICEF	Training/rights of the child/ needs assessment
ILO	Training/human rights education/ needs assessment/fellowship programme/staff training
United Nations Special Coordinator for the Occupied Territories (UNSCO)	Police training
United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch	Administration of justice training/ development/needs assessment
UNRWA	Police training
United Nations Volunteers	Field operations/human rights education
ONUMOZ	Peace-keeper training
International Committee of the Red Cross	Military/police training
International Institute of Humanitarian Law	Military training
International Human Rights Law Group	NGO support
State University of New York at Buffalo Human Rights Centre	Internship programme
Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law	Technical assistance
Amnesty International	Needs assessment/consultations

VI. SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES, INDEPENDENT EXPERTS AND COUNTRY MANDATES

89. In 1994, there were four country-specific mandates charged to the advisory services programme by the Commission on Human Rights, under which special representatives or independent experts were appointed. Each representative or expert has submitted a report to the fifty-first session of the Commission as follows:

Country	Representative/expert	Mandate	Document symbol
Cambodia	Mr. Michael Kirby (Australia), Special Representative	CHR res. 1994/61	E/CN.4/1995/87
El Salvador	Mr. Pedro Nikken (Venezuela), Independent Expert	CHR res. 1994/62	E/CN.4/1995/88
Guatemala	Ms. Monica Pinto (Argentina), Independent Expert	CHR res. 1994/58	E/CN.4/1995/15
Somalia	Mr. Kozonguizi Fanuel (Namibia), Independent Expert	CHR res. 1994/60	E/CN.4/1995/86

VII. THE HUMAN RIGHTS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

90. The United Nations Human Rights Fellowship Programme has been conducted annually since 1955. Under the terms of General Assembly resolution 926 (X), assistance provided by the Secretary-General shall be rendered in agreement with Governments on the basis of their requests. As a part of the advisory services programme, fellowships are awarded to candidates nominated by their Government and are in principle financed under the regular programme of technical cooperation.

91. The Secretary-General annually sends out invitations to Member States to submit nominations for fellows. Governments are reminded that nominees should be directly involved in functions affecting human rights, particularly in the administration of justice. The Secretary-General also draws their attention to concerns expressed by the General Assembly, in many of its resolutions, with respect to the rights of women, and encourages the nomination of women candidates. The principle of geographical distribution is taken into account and priority is given to candidates from States which have not benefited from the Fellowship Programme at all, or have not done so in recent years. No more than one candidate from any given State is normally awarded a fellowship during the year.

92. Participants receive intensive training in a variety of human rights issues, and are encouraged to exchange experiences amongst themselves; they are requested to evaluate the programme, to present individual oral reports, and to prepare recommendations for their superiors based upon information learned during the programme. Finally, according to the policies and procedures governing the administration of United Nations fellowships, each fellow is required to submit a comprehensive final report to the Centre for Human Rights on subjects directly related to his or her field of activity.

93. Following the conclusion of last year's programme, the Centre conducted a comprehensive evaluation, which resulted in the elaboration of a plan to revise the programme. Among the changes adopted for the 1994 programme was the decision to hold the session at the ILO Training Centre in Turin, Italy, and to focus a substantial portion of the curriculum on the preparation of reports to United Nations human rights treaty bodies. Accordingly, the 1994 fellows received training in Geneva from 31 October to 5 November in the work of the United Nations in the field of human rights, including the work of the Centre for Human Rights; the technical cooperation programme; the rights of indigenous peoples; the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; the work of the Commission and the Sub-Commission; the human rights of women; the rights of the child; the work of ILO; international human rights instruments; racism and racial discrimination; human rights complaints procedures; the right to development; and human rights information and documentation. Subsequently, from 7 to 25 November, the fellows received practical training in Turin in the preparation of reports to the various United Nations human rights treaty bodies.

94. In 1994, 32 fellows participated in the programme, representing 31 countries. The participation of nearly half of them was made possible by a specific contribution to the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation. Participants came from the following countries: Colombia, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Malawi, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Nigeria, Republic of Moldova, Sierra Leone, South Africa (2), Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

VIII. ACTIVITIES FINANCED UNDER THE VOLUNTARY FUND

95. The following table shows the activities financed under the Voluntary Fund. The elements of each activity appearing in the table reflects the respective programme components as outlined in chapter V of the present report.

Table 4

Activities financed by the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, by country/region

COUNTRY/REGION	ACTIVITY	SECTOR(S)	DATE/PLACE	REMARKS
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies	Financial grant	Support to regional institutions	F.Y. 1994/Banjul	Ongoing programme of assistance since 1989
African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights	Financial grant	Support to regional institutions	F.Y. 1994/Banjul	Ongoing programme of assistance since 1991
Albania	Country programme	(1) Needs assessment mission for establishment of documentation centre; (2) Inter-agency coordination consultations; (3) Expert advisory services on drafting of laws on juvenile justice and civil registration, respectively.	(1) July 1994; (2) May 1994; (3) January 1994/Tirana	Ongoing country programme since 1992. In 1994, consultations were held with the Council of Europe on better coordination between the programmes of the respective agencies.
Arab Institute for Human Rights	(1) Financial grant; (2) Programme evaluation	Support to regional institutions	(1) F.Y. 1994; (2) 27 May-6 June 1994/ Tunis	Ongoing programme of assistance since 1989
Argentina	(1) Financial grant; (2) Training course	(1) Information and documentation; (2) Police	(1) F.Y. 1994/ Buenos Aires; (2) 24-28 October 1994/ Buenos Aires	With Argentina National Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre
Benin	Country programme	2 training fellowships on preparation of reports to treaty bodies	20-24 June 1994/ Cotonou	Ongoing country programme since 1993
Bhutan	Country programme: consultation mission of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	The High Commissioner for Human Rights visited the country from 27-30 July 1994, and held consultations on the provision of technical cooperation. A country programme is under formulation.	27-30 July 1994/ Thimphu	Programme to be implemented commencing in 1995

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Burundi	Field office/ needs assessments/ comprehensive country programme: all sectors	2 workshops for schoolteachers; Seminar on Reconciliation; judicial seminar; Workshop on Conflict Resolution; production of multi-media teaching and information materials; Lesson book for primary schools; monthly radio show on human rights; needs assessments for police, military and gendarmes.	June-December 1994/ Bujumbura	Ongoing comprehensive country programme and field office in Bujumbura
Chad	Needs assessment/ financial support to seminar for NGOs	Support to NGOs	14-19 February 1994/ N'Djamena	In cooperation with the International Institute of Human Rights, Strasbourg
Costa Rica	2 fellowships	National institutions; office of Ombudsman	10 October-15 November 1994/ San José, Turin and Madrid	In cooperation with the office of the Defensor del Pueblo (Ombudsman) of Spain, and the ILO Training Centre at Turin
Egypt	2 training courses	Police commanders and police trainers	28 May-8 June 1994/ Cairo	In cooperation with the Cairo Police Academy
Global - Meeting of national institutions	Grant; meeting of International Coordinating Committee	National institutions	March 1994/Geneva	Part of ongoing national institutions programme of Centre
Guatemala	Field office/ monitoring/ independent expert	Repatriation of refugees	1994/ Guatemala City	For further information, see report of the Independent Expert (E/CN.4/1995/15)
Guinea	Needs assessment	Police	20-31 March 1994/ Conakry	In cooperation with the Geneva Police Department
HURIDOCS - Africa and Mid-East Project	Regional activity/ financial grant	Information and documentation	1994/Tunis/Cairo/ Palestine/Nairobi/ Cotonou/Addis Ababa	In cooperation with HURIDOCS
Indonesia	Financial grant to national workshop	National action plans	24-26 October/Jakarta	In cooperation with the Government of Indonesia

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Lithuania	Seminar	Parliament/ minorities/ constitutions/ refugees	12-14 April/Vilnius	In cooperation with UNDP Vilnius/UNHCR Stockholm
Mongolia	Country programme/ follow-up consultations	Needs assessment follow-up consultation mission	26 Sept.-2 Oct. 1994/ Ulaanbaatar	Ongoing country programme since 1992
Nepal	Country programme/ consultation mission of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	The High Commissioner for Human Rights visited the country from 31 July-3 August 1994 and held consultations on the provision of technical cooperation. A country programme is under formulation.	31 July-3 August 1994/ Kathmandu	Programme to be implemented commencing in 1995
Papua New Guinea	Country programme/ advisory services	Drafting of legislation for establishment of National Human Rights Institution	February-March 1994/ Port Moresby/Geneva	In cooperation with UNDP Port Moresby
Poland	Financial grant	NGO support	F.Y. 1994/Poznan	Project of support to the Poznan Centre for Human Rights
Romania	Country programme; (1) seminar; (2) seminar; (3) evaluation mission	(1) National minorities; (2) rights of the child; (3) comprehensive evaluation of country programme	(1) 18-21 October 1994/ Bucharest; (2) 24-28 October 1994/ Bucharest and Bacau; (3) 9 January-10 February 1995	Ongoing country programme since 1991
Rwanda	Country programme/ advisory services/field officers/needs assessment mission	(1) Posting of 6 officers to advise Ministry of Justice in strengthening of justice system; (2) comprehensive needs assessment	(1) December 1994-June 1995; (2) 17-29 Nov. 1994/ Kigali	(1) In cooperation with United Nations Volunteers; (2) A country programme will be elaborated for 1995.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Sao Tome and Principe	Country programme	(1) Provision of several hundred copies of selected human rights publications and documents; (2) Provision of books to the prisons of Sao Tome; (3) Expert mission to advise on a plan for accession to human rights treaties	Throughout the month of November 1994	Ongoing country programme
Slovakia	Financial grant	Establishment of National Human Rights Institute	F.Y. 1994/Bratislava	Two-year project of support
United Republic of Tanzania	Country programme/ needs assessment	Comprehensive needs assessment mission	12-19 September 1994/ Dar es Salaam	Country programme to follow for 1995

IX. ACTIVITIES FINANCED UNDER THE REGULAR BUDGET

96. The following table shows the activities financed under the United Nations regular budget.

Table 5

Activities financed under the United Nations regular budget, by country/region

COUNTRY/ REGION	ACTIVITY	SECTOR(s)	DATE/PLACE	REMARKS
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Armenia	Needs assessment	Comprehensive needs assessment	24-31 July 1994/ Yerevan	Programme will follow for 1995
Asian-Pacific Region	Regional Workshop on Human Rights	Regional activities/ national institutions/ regional arrangements	18-20 July 1994/Seoul	In cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Korea
Azerbaijan	Needs assessment	Comprehensive needs assessment	17-24 July 1994/Baku	Programme will follow for 1995
Belarus	(1) Needs assessment, (2) Advisory services	(1) Comprehensive needs assessment; (2) Legislative reform assistance	(1) 12-23 December 1994/ Minsk; (2) March 1994/Geneva	In cooperation with UNDP

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Bolivia	Needs assessment mission	To assess needs in order to prepare a national plan of action for human rights	January 1995/La Paz	To be carried out in cooperation with UNDP
Brazil	2 training courses	Police	10-21 October 1994/ Rio de Janeiro	For 25 police trainers and 25 commanders, respectively
Cambodia	Country programme/ field office/ advisory services/ training courses, workshops and seminars/ information and documentation/ financial grants/ fellowships.	All sectors/ comprehensive country programme.	F.Y. 1994/Phnom Penh	See also report of the Special Representative (E/CN.4/1995/87) The operation of the office is funded under the regular budget, while activities are financed through a separate trust fund
El Salvador	Needs assessment	Comprehensive	4-10 September 1994	For further information, see report of the Independent Expert (E/CN.4/1995/88)
Equatorial Guinea	Needs assessment mission	Comprehensive needs assessment	6-24 June 1994/Malabo	In cooperation with UNDP
Ethiopia	Advisory services	Administration of justice/ impunity/ advice to Special Prosecutor's Office	11-16 July 1994/ Addis Ababa	In response to a request from the Government for advice on the administration of justice with regard to persons charged with human rights violations under the previous regime
Francophone Africa	Regional workshop on reporting obligations for francophone Africa	Preparation of reports under human rights treaties	20-24 June 1994/Abidjan	In cooperation with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Agence de coopération culturelle et technique (ACCT) (France)
Georgia	(1) Information and documentation; (2) Needs assessment	(1) National institutions; (2) Comprehensive needs assessment	(1) September 1994/ Geneva; (2) 7-14 January 1995/ Tblisi	Activities follow Commission resolution 1994/59; further activities to be implemented in 1995

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Global/ system-wide	Training for civilian police components of peace-keeping operations	Participation in 2 training courses for Latin American and Spanish peace-keepers	April 1994/Madrid; November 1994/Avila	In cooperation with UNIC Madrid
Global/ system-wide	Publication of handbook Human Rights and Elections	Electoral assistance	May 1994/Geneva	Professional Training Series No. 2 (HR/P/PT/2)
Global/ system-wide	Completion of handbook	National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights	November 1994/Geneva	Scheduled for publication first quarter 1995
Global/ system-wide	Convening of expert meeting/high-level military officers and human rights and humanitarian law experts	Human rights and the armed forces	10-12 October 1994/ Geneva	Programme development activity towards preparation of human rights training programme for armed forces; pilot courses and manual to follow in 1995
Global/ system-wide	Development of global programme for police training	Police and juvenile justice	1994/Geneva; Oslo/March 1994; Lyon/November 1994; Lyon/December 1994	In cooperation with INTERPOL
Haiti	Needs assessment	Administration of justice/transition	16-23 December 1994/ Port-au-Prince	In cooperation with the United Nations Civilian Mission, UNDP and Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch
Latvia	Advisory services	National institutions/ national plan of action	11-13 March 1994/Riga	In cooperation with UNDP Riga
Malawi	Country programme/ field office/ advisory services/ information and documentation	(1) NGO briefings; (2) Provision of documentation to 23 governmental and non-governmental offices; (3) Post-electoral consultative and advisory mission	(1) Feb.-April 1994; (2) August 1994; (3) 1-10 April 1994/ Lilongwe	Ongoing programme of assistance since 1992. Additional 2-year programme of assistance and field office to follow agreement during visit of High Commissioner for Human Rights of 22-24 August 1994
Mexico	Needs assessment	Police	24-30 April 1994/ Mexico City	In cooperation with UNDP
Morocco	Needs assessment	Comprehensive needs assessment mission	8-13 January 1995/ Rabat	In cooperation with UNDP Rabat

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Mozambique/ ONUMOZ-CIVPOL	Training programme	Peace-keeping/ police (CIVPOL)	27 June-9 July 1994/ Maputo	In cooperation with DPKO and ONUMOZ
Namibia	Training fellowship for human rights documentalist/ advisory services of expert documentalist	Human rights information and documentation	Advisory services - 13 April to 5 May 1994/ Windhoek; Fellowship - 21 March to 13 April/Geneva Copenhagen	In cooperation with the Human Rights Documentation Centre of the University of Namibia (Windhoek)
Palestine	Training programme	Palestinian police commanders and trainers	6-19 November 1994/ Gaza	At the request of the PLO, and in cooperation with the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Occupied Territories (UNSCO)
Peru	Evaluation and consultation mission/ participation in 2 seminars	Consultation on possibilities for technical cooperation; participation in 2 NGO seminars on human rights	Consultation mission - 20-22 June 1994; Seminar participation - 13-14 and 15-17 June 1994/Lima	Seminars organized by Andean Commission of Jurists
Russian Federation	Comprehensive country programme; advisory services	National institutions/ legislative reform/ draft law on establishment of Ombudsman/ publication of children's book	February-December 1994/ Geneva	Ongoing country programme of assistance will continue in 1995 under the Voluntary Fund
Somalia	Advisory services of Independent Expert	As mandated by Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/60	1994/Mogadishu	No activities were carried out in 1994, owing to crisis situation in the country. See report of the Independent Expert (E/CN.4/1995/86)
South Africa	Needs assessment/ advisory services/ financial grant to University of Fort Hare for establishment of resource centre	Human rights information and documentation	1994-1995/University of Fort Hare	In cooperation with UNESCO
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2 training courses	Police	16-27 January 1995/ Skopje	For police commanders and police trainers, respectively

Annex I

Annual Financial Report of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights for 1994
(US dollars)

Contributions received as at 9 December 1994	10 199 341
Pledges received as at 31 December 1994	3 162 091
Total	13 361 432
Disbursements and unliquidated obligations since the inception of the Fund until 31 October 1994 - 13 per cent support cost included (rounded off)	7 070 600
Remaining commitments to be carried over to 1995, including those under earmarked contributions (rounded off), 13 per cent support cost included	3 655 500*
Balance	2 635 332

UTILIZATION DURING 1994 (as of 30 November 1994)

1.	Strengthening of regional and national human rights institutes	592 600
2.	Comprehensive country programmes	116 300
3.	Seminars and training courses	150 900
4.	Information and documentation	211 300
5.	Needs assessment and evaluation	93 800
6.	Fellowships	21 600
7.	Field operations	74 800
	Total, 13 per cent support cost included	1 261 300

* This does not include the amounts of resources required for the implementation of multi-year country programmes for Burundi, Mongolia, Malawi and the Russian Federation.

Annex II

Contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights as of 31 December 1994 (Rev.2)

A. Cumulative by country

GOVERNMENT	AMOUNT IN LOCAL CURRENCY		DATE PLEDGED		EQUIVALENT US$	DATE PAID		FINAL AMOUNT PAID IN US$	Outstanding Pledge in US$
AUSTRALIA	$A	10,000	February	1989	8,815	February	1989	8,815	
(2)	$A	20,000	December	1990	15,600	February	1991	15,601	
(3)	$US	13,480	February	1993	13,480	February	1993	13,480	
(4)	$A	300,000	August	1993	212,100	February	1994	212,100	
(5)	$A	30,000	September	1994	22,200	August	1994	22,200	
AUSTRIA	$US	10,000	December	1988	10,000	December	1988	10,000	
(2)	$US	10,000	December	1989	10,000	December	1989	10,000	
(3)	$US	20,000	-	-	20,000	October	1991	20,000	
(4)	$US	20,000	-	-	20,000	October	1992	20,000	
(5)	$US	20,000	-	-	20,000	November	1993	20,000	
(6)	$US	20,000	-	-	20,000	August	1994	20,000	
BELGIUM	BF	4,500,000	January	1993	134,284	February	1993	134,284	
(2)	BF	6,500,000	September	1993	182,073	December	1993	265,509	
(3)	BF	10,000,000	July	1994	306,748	-	-	-	306,748
CAMEROON	CFAF	500,000	June	1993	1,811	June	1993	1,811	
CANADA	$Can	150,000	September	1987	113,636	September	1987	113,636	
COLOMBIA	-	-	-	-	-	April	1991	10,000	
(2)	-	-	-	-	-	March	1992	10,000	
(3)	-	-	-	-	-	June	1993	10,000	
(4)	-	-	-	-	-	April	1994	10,000	
DENMARK	Dkr	700,000	April	1990	108,493	August	1990	108,493	
(2)	Dkr	1,800,000	March	1991	264,492	October	1991	264,492	
(3)	$US	51,640	April	1992	51,640	May	1992	51,640	
(4)	Dkr	1,500,000	December	1993	218,665	December	1993	218,665	
(5)(***)	$US	50,000	July	1994	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
(6)	Dkr	1,500,000	December	1994	245,098	-	-	-	245,098
FINLAND	Fmk	50,000	March	1988	12,195	April	1988	12,195	
(2)	Fmk	60,000	March	1989	14,405	April	1989	14,405	
(3)	Fmk	250,000	June	1989	56,884	August	1989	56,884	
(4)	-	-	-	-	17,972	August	1990	17,972	
(5)	-	-	-	-	117,188	December	1990	117,188	
(6)	-	-	-	-	352,016	May	1991	352,016	
(7)	-	-	-	-	18,703	May	1991	18,703	
(8)	Fmk	1,387,500	December	1991	324,855	December	1991	324,855	
(9)	Fmk	1,000,000	January	1993	186,350	January	1993	186,350	
(10)(***)	Fmk	100,000	November	1994	21,930	-	-	-	21,930
(11)(***)	Fmk	1,000,000	November	1994	219,298	-	-	-	219,298

GOVERNMENT	AMOUNT IN LOCAL CURRENCY		DATE PLEDGED		EQUIVALENT US$	DATE PAID		FINAL AMOUNT PAID IN US$	Outstanding Pledge in US$
FRANCE	FF	500,000	November	1988	80,386	May	1989	80,386	
(2)	FF	567,000	April	1990	98,780	April	1990	98,780	
(3)	-	-	-	-	34,843	August	1990	34,843	
(4)	FF	400,000	-	-	76,336	October	1990	76,336	
(5)	FF	1,415,845	-	-	273,329	February	1991	273,329	
(6)	FF	400,000	-	-	69,565	October	1991	69,565	
(7)	FF	500,000	August	1992	103,373	September	1992	103,373	
(8)	FF	700,000	-	-	127,273	March	1993	127,273	
(9)	FF	630,000	May	1994	117,100	September	1994	117,100	
(10)	FF	500,000	December	1994	93,110	-	-	-	93,110
GERMANY	DM	40,000	March	1988	24,054	April	1988	24,054	
(2)	-	40,000	January	1989	21,755	March	1989	21,755	
(3)	$US	23,557	-	-	23,557	March	1990	23,557	
(4)	$US	23,454	October	1991	23,454	August	1991	23,454	
(5)	DM	40,000	July	1992	26,931	July	1992	26,931	
(6)	DM	116,400	June	1993	71,411	October	1993	71,411	
(7)	DM	200,000	June	1994	126,582	September	1994	126,582	
(8)	DM	70,000	July	1994	44,872	December	1994	44,872	
GREECE	-	-	-	-	5,000	April	1991	5,000	
(2)	-	-	-	-	5,000	May	1992	5,000	
(3)	-	-	-	-	5,000	April	1993	5,000	
(4)	-	-	-	-	5,000	May	1994	5,000	
HUNGARY	$US	2,500	September	1989	2,500	October	1989	2,500	
(2)	-	-	-	-	2,500	October	1990	2,500	
(3)	-	-	-	-	2,485	October	1992	2,485	
INDONESIA	$US	16,000	November	1992	16,000	January	1993	16,000	
IRELAND	£Ir	2,000	March	1991	3,572	March	1991	3,572	
(2)	£Ir	3,500	February	1992	5,815	February	1992	5,815	
(3)	$US	14,805	-	-	14,805	March	1993	14,805	
(4)	£Ir	30,000	February	1994	45,120	August	1994	45,120	
ITALY	$US	50,000	June	1988	50,000	July	1988	50,000	
(2)	-	99,990	January	1989	99,990	June	1990	99,990	
(3)	$US	177,570	June	1989	177,570	Sep.89 / Feb.90		177,570	
(4)	Lit	170,000,000	June	1991	133,543	October	1991	133,543	
(5)	Swf	800,000	March	1992	634,921	September	1992	634,921	
(6)	Lit	3,333,333	May	1993	193,065	December	1993	193,065	
(7)(*)	-	-	Avril	1994	-	-	-	-	-
JAPAN	$US	50,000	March	1989	50,000	December	1989	50,000	
(2)	-	-	-	-	50,000	April	1991	50,000	
(3)	-	-	-	-	50,000	December	1991	50,000	
(4)	$US	100,000	January	1993	100,000	March	1993	100,000	
(5)	$US	100,000	December	1993	100,000	January	1994	100,000	
LUXEMBOURG	$US	5,934	-	-	5,934	May	1992	5,934	
(2)	LuxF	200,000	August	1992	6,050	April	1993	6,050	
(3)	$US	5,571	December	1993	5,571	December	1993	5,571	
(4)	$US	36,000	November	1993	36,000	January	1994	36,000	
(5)	$US	100,000	June	1994	100,000	August	1994	100,000	
(6)	$US	114,000	November	1994	114,000	-	-	-	114,000

GOVERNMENT	AMOUNT IN LOCAL CURRENCY		DATE PLEDGED		EQUIVALENT US$	DATE PAID		FINAL AMOUNT PAID IN US$	Outstanding Pledge in US$
NETHERLANDS	f	100 000	March	1988	46,713	August	1988	46,713	
(2)	-	-	-	-	50,652	December	1989	50,652	
(3)	-	-	-	-	24,935	October	1990	24 935	
(4)	f.	60 000	December	1990	35,741	December	1990	35,741	
(5)(**)	£.	254,350	April	1994	151,491	November	1994	151,491	
(6)	£.	465 000	May	1994	247,340	July	1994	131,147	116,193
(7)(***)	£.	450,000	August	1994	255,682	-	-	-	255,682
NEW ZEALAND	$US	10,432	August	1988	10,432	August	1988	10,432	
(2)	$US	9 392	June	1989	9,392	June	1989	9,392	
(3)	$US	9,432	-	-	9,432	March	1990	9,432	
(4)	$NZ	16 000	May	1991	9,427	May	1991	9,427	
(5)	$NZ	30,000	May	1992	17,184	May	1992	17,184	
(6)	$NZ	15 000	December	1992	8,084	December	1992	8,084	
(7)	-	-	-	-	15,957	May	1993	15,957	
(8)	-	-	-	-	5,863	July	1994	5,863	
(9)	-	-	-	-	15,579	September	1994	15,579	
NORWAY	NKr	1,000,000	January	1988	157,356	January	1988	157,356	
(2)	-	-	-	-	160,456	January	1990	160,456	
(3)	Swf	331 440	March	1991	253,008	March	1991	253,008	
(4)	-	-	-	-	-	June	1993	76,845	
(5)	$US	300,000	August	1993	300,000	October	1993	300,000	
(6)	NKr	350,000	July	1994	50,350	July	1994	50,350	
PANAMA	-	-	-	-	-	November	1990	1,000	
(2)	-	-	-	-	-	August	1991	1,000	
(3)	-	-	-	-	-	May	1992	1,000	
(4)	-	-	-	-	-	June	1993	1,000	
(5)	-	-	-	-	-	September	1994	1,000	
PORTUGAL	-	-	-	-	10,000	March	1991	10,000	
REP. of KOREA	$US	100 000	September	1994	50,000	November	1994	50 000	
					50,000	-	-	-	50,000
SWEDEN	SKr	2,000 000	June	1988	334,616	June	1988	334 616	
(2)	-	-	-	-	61,543	June	1990	61,543	
(3)	SKr	3,000 000	February	1991	506,985	December	1991	506,985	
(4)	-	-	-	-	332,881	June	1991	332,881	
(5)	SKr	500 000	March	1992	90,416	July	1992	90,416	
(6)	-	-	-	-	10,218	November	1992	10,218	
(7)	SKr	850,000	December	1992	117,240	May	1993	117,240	
(8)	SKr	3,000,000	April	1993	370,714	October	1993	370,714	
(9)	SKr	1,600,000	August	1994	207,254	-	-	-	207,254
(10)(***)	SKr	520,000	September	1994	67,358	-	-	-	67,358
(11)(***)	SKr	3,000,000	November	1994	420,757	-	-	-	420,757
SWITZERLAND	Swf	55,000	December	1989	36,424	January	1990	36 424	
(2)	Swf	50,000	December	1990	38,559	January	1991	38,559	
(3)	-	-	-	-	2,500	November	1991	2,500	
(4)	Swf	80 000	December	1991	59,626	January	1992	59 626	
(5)	Swf	95 000	December	1992	63,509	January	1993	63 509	
(6)	Swf	200 000	June	1994	135,281	January	1994	135,281	
(7)	Swf	200 000	September	1994	156,250	October	1994	156,250	
TOGO	CFAF	500 000	May	1988	1,832	-	-	-	1,832

GOVERNMENT	AMOUNT IN LOCAL CURRENCY		DATE PLEDGED		EQUIVALENT US$	DATE PAID		FINAL AMOUNT PAID IN US$	Outstanding Pledge in US$
UNITED KINGDOM	SwF	48,400	March	1988	34,820	March	1988	34,820	
(2)	£	30,000	March	1989	56,775	August	1990	56,775	
(3)	£	30,000	February	1991	57,370	February	1991	57,370	
(4)	£	10,000	January	1993	15,466	January	1993	15,466	
(5)	£	25,000	February	1993	37,457	February	1993	37,457	
(6)	£	100,000	July	1994	155,039	-	-	-	155,039
UNITED STATES	$US	150,000	September	1994	198,000	December	1994	198,000	
(2)(***)	$US	1,025,000	November	1994	1,025,000	-	-	-	1,025,000
URUGUAY	$US	1,000	May	1989	1,000	June	1989	1,000	
					SUB-TOTALS.....			10,243,030	3,349,299

(*) This list does not include the Italian contribution of 162,800 CHF, the repartition of which will be defined at a later stage.

(**) Earmarked for the salary of the Co-ordinator of the Fund.

(***) Subject to conditions being acceptable.

GOVERNMENT	AMOUNT IN LOCAL CURRENCY		DATE PLEDGED	EQUIVALENT US$	DATE PAID	FINAL AMOUNT PAID IN US$	Outstanding Pledge in US$
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS							
FOND CULT ISLAMIQU	SwF	8,345	- -	5,282	September 1988	5,282	
MINNESOTA LAWERS INT.H.R COMMITTEE	$US	100	- -	100	February 1988	100	
PEACE PRIZE TO CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS	SwF	6,788	- -	4,269	February 1989	4,269	
WORLD BLIND UNION	$	1,000	- -	1,000	- -	-	1,000
OTHERS							
SALE OF U.N HUMAN RIGHTS WATCHES			-				
(1)	SwF	26,409	- -	15,814	- -	15,814	
(2)	SwF	11,244	- -	8,853	- -	8,853	
(3)	SwF	11,291	- -	8,000	September 1993	8,000	
KATHERINE WINCKLER TRUST	$US	73,969	February 1991	73,969	- -	73,969	
JAPAN FED. BAR ASSOCIATIONS	$US	43,595	- -	43,595	December 1991	43,595	
				SUB-TOTALS		**159,882**	**1,000**
GRAN TOTALS						**10,402,912**	**3,350,299**
TOTAL PAID AND PLEDGED				**13,753,211**			

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights
Contributions as of 31 December 1994 US$ (Rev.2)

B. By year

Government	1987 & 1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	Total paid by country	Outstanding pledge	Total paid + pledged
Australia	-	8,815	-	15,601	-	13,480	234,300	272,196	-	272,196
Austria	10,000	10,000	-	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	100,000	-	100,000
Belgium	-	-	-	-	134,284	265,509	-	399,793	306,748	706,541
Cameroun	-	-	-	-	-	1,811	-	1,811	-	1,811
Canada	113,636	-	-	-	-	-	-	113,636	-	113,636
Colombia	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000	-	40,000
Denmark	-	-	108,493	264,492	51,640	218,665	-	643,290	295,098	938,388
Finland	12,195	71,289	135,160	695,574	-	186,350	-	1,100,568	241,228	1,341,796
France	-	80,386	209,959	342,894	103,373	127,273	117,100	980,985	93,110	1,074,095
Germany	24,054	21,755	23,557	23,454	26,931	71,411	171,454	362,616	-	362,616
Greece	-	-	-	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	20,000	-	20,000
Hungary	-	2,500	2,500	-	2,485	-	-	7,485	-	7,485
Indonesia	-	-	-	-	-	16,000	-	16,000	-	16,000
Ireland	-	-	-	3,572	5,815	14,805	45,120	69,312	-	69,312
Italy (*)	50,000	19,985	257,575	133,543	634,921	193,065	-	1,289,089	-	1,289,089
Japan	-	50,000	50,000	50,000	100,000	100,000	-	350,000	-	350,000
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	5,934	47,621	100,000	153,555	114,000	267,555
Netherlands	46,713	50,652	60,676	-	-	-	282,638	440,679	371,875	812,554
New Zealand	10,432	9,392	9,432	9,427	25,258	15,967	21,442	101,350	-	101,350
Norway	157,356	-	160,456	253,008	-	376,845	50,350	998,015	-	998,015
Panama	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	5,000	-	5,000
Portugal	-	-	-	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
Rep of Korea	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	50,000	50,000	100,000
Sweden	334,616	-	61,543	839,866	100,634	487,954	-	1,824,613	695,369	2,519,982
Switzerland	-	-	36,424	41,059	59,626	63,509	291,531	492,149	-	492,149
Togo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1,832	1,832
United Kingdom	34,820	-	56,775	57,370	-	52,923	-	201,888	155,039	356,927
United States	-	-	-	-	-	-	198,000	198,000	1,025,000	1,223,000
Uruguay	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	1,000
Sub-Totals	793,822	325,774	1,173,550	2,775,860	1,286,913	2,289,178	1,597,805	10,243,030	3,349,299	13,592,329

Non-Governmental Organizations	1987 & 1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	Total paid by Organization	Outstanding pledge	Total paid + pledged
Fond Cult Islamique	5,282	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,282	-	5,282
Minnesota Lawyers Int. HR Committee	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	-	100
Peace Prize to UN Centre for Human Rights	-	4,269	-	-	-	-	-	4,269	-	4,269
World Blind Union	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1,000	1,000
Others										
Save of UN Human Rights Watches	-	15,814	8,853	-	-	8,000	-	32,667		32,667
K. Winckler Trust	-	-	-	73,969	-	-	-	73,969	-	73,969
Japan Fed. Bar Associations	-	-	-	43,595	-	-	-	43,595	-	43,595
Sub-Totals	5,382	20,083	8,853	117,564	0	8,000	0	159,882	1,000	160,882
Grand Totals	799,204	345,857	1,182,403	2,893,424	1,286,911	2,297,178	1,597,935	10,402,912	3,350,299	13,753,211

[*] This list does not include the Italian contribution of CHF 162,500, the repartition of which will be defined at a later stage.

UNITED
NATIONS

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Council

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-first session
Item 21 of the provisional agenda

ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights

Chairperson: Mrs. Anne-Marie Lizin

Report of the Secretary-General

The attached report of the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation is circulated to the Commission on Human Rights pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/69, in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General to include the report of the Board of Trustees on its activities in his annual report to the Commission on Human Rights on advisory services and technical cooperation.

GE.95-10431 (E)

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Introduction

1. The Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1993/87, requested the Secretary-General to appoint a board of trustees for the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights to advise the Secretary-General on the administration and operation of the Fund; and requested the Board of Trustees to assist the Secretary-General in streamlining and rationalizing the procedures of the Fund, including developing long-term policy guidelines, reviewing specific projects, reviewing all financial aspects of the Fund with regard to transparency and accountability, reviewing cooperation with other organizations with regard to project evaluation and follow-up, and reviewing implementation of decisions of the Board of Trustees. The Board was also requested to promote and solicit contributions to the Fund.

2. Pursuant to this resolution, the Secretary-General appointed, in November 1993, the following five persons with wide experience in the field of human rights and in technical cooperation to serve as members of the Board, acting in their personal capacity: Mrs. Anne-Marie Lizin (Belgium), Mr. Kinhide Mushakoji (Japan), Mr. Luis Pérez Aguirre (Uruguay), Mr. Krzysztof Skubiszewski (Poland) and Dr. Leila I. Takla (Egypt).

3. In its resolution 1994/69 of 9 March 1994, the Commission welcomed the appointment of the Board of Trustees and urged the Board to review the existing project guidelines with a view to improving orientation for Governments requesting advisory services, establishing clear criteria for selecting and defining priorities for projects, as well as establishing an efficient and flexible project preparation, implementation and evaluation procedure.

4. The Board held its first and second sessions at the United Nations Office at Geneva, from 28 February to 4 March 1994 and from 7 to 10 November 1994, respectively.

5. In the above-mentioned resolutions, the Commission also requested that the report of the Board of Trustees on their activities be included in the Secretary-General's annual report to the Commission on Human Rights on advisory services and technical cooperation. The present report of the second session is submitted pursuant to that request.

Executive summary

6. Pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/87, the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund was established to advise the Secretary-General on the administration and operation of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights. The creation of the Board was intended to strengthen the capacity and enhance the quality of the Voluntary Fund, which has expanded in order to respond to the increasing requests from countries in transition to democracy.

7. The Board of Trustees held its first session in March 1994 with the primary aim of examining the existing administration and operation of the Voluntary Fund in project preparation, implementation and evaluation, and of establishing provisional rules and criteria under which the Board could carry out its functions effectively, both during its sessions and in the inter-sessional periods.

8. Between its first and second sessions, the Board received, and considered the action proposed for, eight new requests for assistance, as well as six programmes and projects elaborated by the Centre for Human Rights.

9. During its second session held at Geneva from 7 to 10 November, the Board considered and endorsed country programmes for Burundi, Malawi, Mongolia, Nepal and the Russian Federation in the presence of representatives of the respective Governments. The Board also paid special attention to, and took action on, a request and proposal made by the Government of Rwanda, who through its Minister of Justice, addressed the Board.

10. As a follow-up to the work of its first session, the Board examined and discussed the financial situation of the Fund, the procedure for project preparation and evaluation, and fund-raising activities.

11. In order to solicit contributions, and in view of the precarious financial situation of the Voluntary Fund, the Board participated in a meeting with contributing Governments to the Fund, which was convened, upon closure of the session, by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights.

12. In the light of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and Commission on Human Rights resolutions in which the Secretary-General was requested to ensure more transparent management rules and activities of technical cooperation in the field of human rights, the Board decided to request the Centre for Human Rights to organize, on a regular basis, similar information meetings open to all member States involved in the technical cooperation programme.

I. DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT ITS SECOND SESSION

13. The following decisions were adopted by the Board at its second session.

1994/1. Frequency of the session of the Board of Trustees

At its 1st meeting, on 7 November 1994, the Board decided to hold at least two sessions a year, the first preferably during the session of the Commission on Human Rights and the second for one week in October/November.

1994/2. Organization of work

At its 1st meeting, on 7 November 1994, the Board decided to invite the following United Nations services and Government representatives to participate in its meetings:

(a) In connection with items 4 and 8: Financial Resources Management Service, United Nations Office at Geneva (Accounts Section; Programme Planning and Budget Section);

(b) In connection with item 4: the United Nations Board of Auditors;

(c) In connection with item 5: the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Rwanda, H.E. Mr. Alphonso-Marie Nkubito, and representatives of the Governments of Bhutan, Burundi, Mongolia, Nepal and the Russian Federation.

1994/3. Fund-raising for the Voluntary Fund

At its 1st meeting, on 7 November 1994, the Board, taking note of paragraph 20 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/87 and bearing in mind its role in fund-raising, as well as the level of funds currently available in the Fund, decided to intensify its efforts to raise funds and propose to the Secretary-General to convene at Geneva a meeting of all regular contributors to the Fund, during each session of the Board, where the Board would be represented, with the aim of soliciting contributions for specific country programmes and other projects approved by the Secretary-General which require a significant level of funding and, where appropriate, to invite all countries interested in the activities of the Voluntary Fund to the above-mentioned meeting. The Board also requested the Secretary-General to allocate the necessary resources for fund-raising activities.

1994/4. Technical cooperation projects for Bhutan, Burundi, Malawi, Mongolia, Nepal and the Russian Federation

At its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 7 and 8 November 1994, the Board, expressing its appreciation to the representatives of the Governments of Burundi, Mongolia, Nepal and the Russian Federation for their participation in the meeting, taking note of paragraph 19 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/87, having considered the project documents submitted to the Board and confirmed that the projects described in the documents were consistent with the objectives of the Voluntary Fund and with the criteria

for project selection adopted under agenda item 6 at its current session, decided to endorse and to recommend that the Secretary-General take the following action:

(a) Continue implementing a country programme of technical assistance to Burundi, to be reviewed by the Board at its next session, and to provide awards in the amount of $500 for five individuals whose courageous and humanitarian acts cross barriers of tribal and ethnic animosity, thus creating an atmosphere more conducive to peace and reconciliation, and consider the Board's involvement in the forthcoming regional meeting in Bujumbura, which would serve to coordinate the whole of the United Nations activities in the region;

(b) Approve a country programme of technical assistance to Malawi;

(c) Continue implementation of a country programme of technical assistance to Mongolia;

(d) Approve a pilot country programme of technical assistance to Nepal with the understanding that the document submitted would be duly revised following a needs assessment;

(e) Approve a country programme of technical assistance to the Russian Federation.

The Board also decided to consider the Bhutan country programme for endorsement at its 3rd session, at the request of the Government of Bhutan, so that Bhutan may be present during the consideration.

1994/5. Request from Rwanda for technical assistance

At its 4th meeting, on 8 November 1994, the Board, bearing in mind the urgent and exceptional situation in Rwanda, and having considered a proposal for assistance submitted by H.E. Mr. A. M. Nkubito, Minister of Justice of Rwanda, as well as taking note of the operational plan for Rwanda prepared by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, decided to recommend that the Secretary-General take the following immediate action under the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights:

(a) Develop and implement as a matter of urgency a technical assistance project, for an amount of up to $100,000, to reconstruct the Ministry of Justice;

(b) Provide awards in the amount of $500 for five individuals whose courageous and humanitarian acts cross barriers of tribal and ethnic animosity, thus creating an atmosphere more conducive to peace and reconciliation;

(c) Undertake needs assessment, in which the Board wishes to be involved, in order to formulate a comprehensive programme of assistance, which will be reviewed by the Board at its next session.

1994/6. Request from Barbados for assistance

At its 6th meeting, on 9 November 1994, the Board, referring to a letter from the Caribbean Human Rights Network regarding funding for a seminar being organized in Barbados on "Criminal justice and the role of sentencing", and taking note of the action taken by the Centre for Human Rights, decided to request the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to cover any negative financial consequences for the organizers of the seminar.

1994/7. Secretariat of the Voluntary Fund

At its 4th meeting, on 8 November 1994, the Board, taking note of paragraph 13 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/69, in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General to provide the Board with the necessary administrative assistance in order to make it possible for it to fulfil its mandate, decided to reiterate the request to the Secretary-General that a coordinator of the Voluntary Fund be appointed or recruited as soon as possible, who could serve as secretary of the Board in order to coordinate the work of the Board with the Secretary-General, including fund-raising activities for the Fund.

1994/8. Evaluation of projects

At its 6th meeting, on 9 November 1994, the Board, taking note of paragraph 12 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/69, and having reviewed the evaluation procedure, decided to request the Secretary-General to elaborate criteria for the evaluation of projects, taking into account the experience of other United Nations agencies, to be presented to the Board at its third session. In this context, the Board also decided to review the evaluation of the programmes for Albania and Romania at its third session.

1994/9. Criteria for selecting and defining priorities for projects

At its 6th meeting, on 9 November 1994, the Board, taking note of paragraph 19 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/87 and paragraph 26 of Commission resolution 1994/69, and referring to the substantive criteria for selecting and defining priorities for projects (TCB/BT1/1/Annex 5) which were adopted at its first session, decided to continue to apply the criteria in defining priority and selecting projects.

1994/10. Reimbursement of telecommunications expenses

At its 4th meeting, on 8 November 1994, the Board decided to reiterate its request that the telecommunications expenses incurred by Board members in the discharge of their functions be reimbursed in accordance with principles/guidelines to be established by the United Nations.

1994/11. Promotion of the Voluntary Fund

At its 7th meeting, on 10 November 1994, the Board decided to reiterate its request that a flyer and a booklet be produced explaining the principal

objectives of the Voluntary Fund, giving samples of activities, setting out the procedure to be followed and including the composition of the Board of Trustees.

1994/12. Date and venue of the third session of the Board of Trustees

At its 1st meeting, on 7 November 1994, the Board decided to hold its third session at Geneva, at the Palais des Nations, from 13 to 17 February 1995.

II. ORGANIZATION OF THE SECOND SESSION

(a) Opening and duration of the session

14. The Board held its second session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 7 to 10 November 1994. The High Commissioner for Human Rights addressed the Board at the opening of this session.

(b) Attendance

15. The second session was attended by the following members of the Board: Mrs. Anne-Marie Lizin, Mr. Kinhide Mushakoji, Mr. Luis Pérez Aguirre and Dr. Leila I. Takla. Mr. Krzysztof Skubiszewski was unable to attend, owing to the unforeseen change of the dates of the session.

(c) Election of officers

16. At its first session, on 28 February 1994, the Board elected Mrs. Anne-Marie Lizin Chairperson and Dr. Leila Takla Vice-Chairperson by acclamation.

(d) Agenda

17. At the 1st meeting of its second session, the Board had before it the provisional agenda (TCB/BT2/1). The agenda was adopted by the Board without amendment. For the text as adopted, see annex I to the present report.

(e) Organization of work

18. At the 1st meeting of its second session, the Board considered the organization of the work of the session. Bearing in mind the respective priority of the items and the availability of the visitors, in particular, the Minister of Justice of Rwanda, and members of the Board at each meeting, as well as the fact that Mr. Mushakoji would have to leave on 10 November, the Board accepted the recommendations of the Chairperson that the agenda items should be considered in the following order: 2, 3, 9, 5, 4, 5, 7, 6, 8, 9, 10.

19. The Board also decided that a meeting with the contributing Governments to the Voluntary Fund should be institutionalized and held during the session of the Board. It should be noted in this regard that the Board participated

in the meeting with the contributing Governments to the Fund which was organized by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on 11 November 1994.

20. At the same meeting, upon the recommendation of the Chairperson and suggestions made to this effect during its first session, the Board decided to invite government representatives of the countries for which programmes of technical assistance had been elaborated and were to be considered, to participate in the meetings under agenda item 5. The Board also agreed to the proposal made by the secretariat that each project would be introduced by a project officer responsible for that project, followed by statements by government representatives. The Board also agreed to invite financial officers and an external auditor who was in Geneva during the week of this session.

21. The Board considered it necessary that it attend the session of the Commission on Human Rights in order to present its report.

22. The Board adopted a draft decision concerning participation at the second session, under agenda item 3. For the text of the decision as adopted, see Chapter I, decision 1994/2.

III. FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

23. The Board considered agenda item 4 at the 4th meeting of its second session, on 8 November. The Board had before it the following documents:

Tables of contributions to the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation (TCB/BT2/2);

Statement of accounts for each ongoing project (TCB/BT2/3);

Statement of income and expenditure for the Voluntary Fund (TCB/BT2/4);

Status of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation (TCB/BT2/5);

Financial situation report on the regular programme of technical cooperation (TCB/BT2/6).

24. Referring to the documents relating to item 4, the secretariat provided the Board with the following background information on the financial documentation and comments on the financial situation of the Voluntary Fund.

(a) General financial situation of the Voluntary Fund

25. As at 31 October 1994, the Voluntary Fund had received $11,543,681 in total since its inception in 1987. Of that amount, $2,704,700 had been pledged or paid since January 1994, the highest amount pledged and/or contributed in any one year. It should be noted, however, that approximately 58 per cent of that amount was earmarked for the country programme of technical assistance to Burundi. While the funds raised for the Burundi programme should be considered a success, there was no guarantee that other country programmes of a similar size to the Burundi programme could achieve

the same success. It was also important to note that the Fund should finance a number of other smaller projects and for that purpose it should continue to receive unearmarked regular contributions.

26. The attention of the Board was also drawn to the document prepared by the secretariat on the status of the Voluntary Fund (TCB/BT2/5), and in particular to the fact that there had been a tendency in the past few years for Governments to earmark their contributions to specific projects or activities. In some cases, contributions had been earmarked for general ideas of projects which had not yet been formulated. If those contributions were excluded from the total amount of income, the funds available for actual projects which had not benefited from specific funding by donor Governments, were scarce. The funds available as of 3 November 1994 for such projects amounted to $210,880.

27. The Board requested the secretariat to provide it with a financial report on the Fund on a quarterly basis. Officials of the Financial Resources Management Service were present and clarified some budgetary issues raised by the Board, in addition to commenting on the above-mentioned financial document prepared by the secretariat.

28. In connection with the relationship between the Voluntary Fund and the regular budget in financing activities under the programme of technical cooperation, the Board was informed of the financial status of the regular budget. The Board was also informed about the distinction made in the use of resources between the regular budget and the Voluntary Fund. The Board was of the view that the regular budget resources should be fully utilized to fill a gap between the existing human resources and the increasing mandate of the Fund.

(b) Financial administration of the Fund

29. The attention of the Board was drawn to its request to the secretariat made at its first session. In agreement with the recommendation made by the internal auditor who conducted an audit of the Voluntary Fund in December 1993, the Board had requested the secretariat, in order to monitor closely expenditures under the Fund, to continue to prepare a financial statement on each project. The Board was informed that, as recommended by the Board, new projects referred to the Board after its first session had been given sub-accounts so that the financial status of each project could be easily identified.

30. Concerning the question of expediting the process of obtaining an authorization from the Financial Services, the Board took note with appreciation of the delegation of authority from New York to Geneva for the issuance of an allotment.

31. A member of the United Nations Board of Auditors who was on mission to Geneva was also present and made a statement on the duties of the auditor with regard to United Nations trust funds. The Board requested the secretariat to invite a member of the Board of Auditors to be present during its third session in order to discuss the comments made by the auditors on the management of technical cooperation projects.

IV. ROLE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IN FUND-RAISING

32. The Board considered agenda item 7 during the 4th meeting of its second session, on 8 November 1994.

33. During this meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights addressed the Board. The Board was informed of the efforts being made in searching for a coordinator of the Fund to strengthen the secretariat of the Fund and of the Centre's perspectives for fund-raising activities. One member of the Board extended an invitation to the Assistant Secretary-General to visit Japan, which would also provide an opportunity for fund-raising.

34. The Board discussed various modalities of fund-raising for the programmes and decided that a meeting should be organized in Geneva with representatives of potential donor Governments in order to raise funds for the Fund for general and specific purposes.

35. The Board adopted a draft decision under agenda item 7. For the text of the decision as adopted, see chapter I, decision 1994/3.

V. CONSIDERATION OF PROJECTS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

36. The Board considered agenda item 5, at the 2nd, 3rd and 4th meetings of its second session, on 7 and 8 November 1994. The Board had before it the following documents:

Projects and related activities referred to the Board of Trustees (March 1994 - present) (TCB/BT2/7);

Technical cooperation activities (TCB/BT2/8);

Project document for the programme of technical assistance to Burundi (TCB/BT2/8/Add.1);

Programme overview for the programme of technical assistance to Bhutan (TCB/BT2/8/Add.2);

Project document for the programme of technical assistance to Malawi (TCB/BT2/8/Add.3);

Project document for the programme of technical assistance to Mongolia (TCB/BT2/8/Add.4);

Programme overview for the programme of technical assistance to Nepal (TCB/BT2/8/Add.5);

Project document for the programme of technical assistance to the Russian Federation (TCB/BT2/8/Add.6);

Report on the evaluation of the Arab Institute for Human Rights (TCB/BT2/8/Add.7);

Request and proposal for assistance for Rwanda (TCB/BT2/8/Add.8, 9, 10);

Request from the Caribbean Human Rights Network (TCB/BT2/8/Add.11).

37. The attention of the Board was drawn to the list of projects and related activities, as well as to the fact sheets on each project and activity describing the type of assistance, duration, estimated cost and status. The secretariat provided the Board with information on the work carried out by the Technical Cooperation Branch in the preparation and implementation of the projects and activities, in particular during the period March - October 1994.

38. The Chairperson requested the secretariat to provide more information on all projects in hand, irrespective of whether they had been subject to the Board's consideration.

39. The Board reviewed the document (TCB/BT2/7) which showed consultations held between the secretariat and the Board on projects and related activities during the period March - October 1994. It was noted that all projects referred to the Board had been endorsed by the Assistant Secretary-General and all courses of action suggested by the secretariat on new requests had been approved. However, the Board also noted several cases of non-compliance with the procedure adopted during the first session of the Board.

40. The Board considered the following projects.

(a) Country programme of technical assistance to Burundi

41. The Chairperson drew attention to the fact that under the urgent procedure, the Board had recommended this project to be approved only for its 1994 programme. The secretariat explained that since its submission to the Board in June 1994, the project document had been reformulated in accordance with the existing guidelines and the cost plan had been drastically revised. As a result, the estimated cost of the project for a three-year period had increased from $1,248,000 to $3,142,000. It was noted that the current level of resources pledged or paid by the donors ($1,577,240) could cover the programme cost until the middle of 1995. Thus more funding was required.

42. A representative of the Permanent Mission of Burundi to the Office of the United Nations at Geneva addressed the Board of Trustees, expressing the Government's wish to extend the programme of technical assistance to a three-year period. It was suggested that this programme should aim to reach the entire population of Burundi. The representative concluded by reaffirming the Government's commitment to cooperating with the Centre for Human Rights.

43. The secretariat drew the attention of the Board to the current costs of the Burundi programme, and the current list of pledges and contributions made by donor countries.

44. The Board stressed the need for confidence-building measures to take into account the ethnic realities of Burundi in a comprehensive manner.

45. The project officer of the Centre for Human Rights addressed the Board and noted that in attempting to create a "human rights culture", the Centre had acted in concert with those people in Burundi who were capable of addressing cultural needs. It was also stated that technical cooperation activities must reconcile human rights with development needs.

46. The Board recommended the creation of awards, in the amount of US$ 500 each, for five cases of courageous and humanitarian acts which crossed the barriers of tribal and ethnic animosity, thus making for an atmosphere more conducive to peace and coexistence, and that consideration be given to the Board's involvement in the forthcoming regional meeting in Bujumbura, which would serve to coordinate all United Nations activities in the region.

47. The Board endorsed the continuation of the Burundi programme, to be reviewed by the Board at its next session.

(b) Country programme of technical assistance to Bhutan

48. In accordance with a request made by the Permanent Mission of Bhutan, the Board decided to postpone the consideration of the project for Bhutan until the third session.

(c) Country programme of technical assistance to Malawi

49. The project officer of the Centre gave a briefing on the country programme for Malawi, including all previous involvement of the Centre and the objectives and activities to be implemented in the current phase of the programme.

50. The Board noted that, in view of the great importance of educational activities, the budget for the implementation of educational activities should be increased.

51. The Board suggested that since programmes could provide a learning experience for the Centre for Human Rights, project evaluations should include successful activities as well as obstacles and difficulties.

52. The Board recommended that non-governmental organizations be consulted during implementation of the project.

53. The Board endorsed the country programme.

(d) Country programme of technical assistance to Mongolia

54. The project officer of the Centre gave a briefing on the ongoing project and the latest mission to the country.

55. A statement was also made by the Ambassador of Mongolia to the United Nations at Geneva.

56. The Board raised the issue of the importance of associating the civil society, and specifically non-governmental organizations, in the implementation of the project.

57. The Board recommended to continue with the implementation of the project activities as planned, and requested that the Centre keep the Board informed of the implementation of the project, in particular on the financial aspects.

(e) Country programme of technical assistance to Nepal

58. The project officer of the Centre presented the Nepal project and informed the Board of the activities to be undertaken in order to achieve the proposed objectives.

59. A representative of the Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations Office at Geneva made a statement supporting the Centre's involvement in the country programme.

60. The Board recommended that in the case of assistance to non-governmental organizations, all types of groups be taken into consideration for the implementation of the activities envisaged.

61. The Board recommended that the situation of refugees in Nepal be taken into consideration when planning and implementing all programme activities, in view of the direct relationship between these persons and the objectives of the programme.

62. The Board endorsed the project.

(f) Country programme of technical assistance to the Russian Federation

63. The secretariat presented the project document for the country programme of technical assistance to the Russian Federation, relating to the publication and distribution of a children's picture book on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and support to non-governmental organizations.

64. A representative of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations Office at Geneva made a statement in support of the programme.

65. The Board stressed that, in the movement towards economic reform within the Russian Federation, existing social programmes aimed at improving human welfare must not be forgotten or dismantled.

66. The Board endorsed the implementation of both activities and requested the Centre to consider using this type of activity as a model for other countries.

67. The Board adopted a draft decision on the projects discussed under agenda item 5. For the text of the decision as adopted, see chapter I, decision 1994/4.

(g) Rwanda

68. The Chief of the Special Procedures Branch provided the Board with a chronological description of the Centre's involvement in Rwanda.

69. The secretariat informed the Board of the request for assistance submitted by the Government of Rwanda at the end of August 1994, through the field office of the Centre for Human Rights in Kigali, following the second official visit by the High Commissioner for Human Rights to the country (TCB/BT2/8/Add.8).

70. The Board was informed by the secretariat that, in September 1994, the High Commissioner had launched an appeal for support for his Plan of Action, in which technical cooperation activities were included as one of the three components of the human rights field operation. The Plan of Action envisaged a needs assessment mission to establish a country programme for Rwanda.

71. The Minister of Justice of Rwanda attended this meeting to provide the Board with an opportunity, prior to the comprehensive assessment, to identify the areas of assistance in the field of human rights to which the Voluntary Fund should give priority under its mandate.

72. After considering the request for assistance submitted by the Government of Rwanda at the end of August 1994 and the new proposal presented by the Minister of Justice, the Board recommended that priority be given to the request of the Minister of Justice and that an amount of US$ 100,000 be approved immediately (before the needs assessment mission and formalization and implementation of a country programme), in order to support the restructuring process needed at the Ministry of Justice, specifically by making experts available to advise the Minister and train the staff.

73. The Board requested the secretariat to prepare and present, before the end of its session, a proposal to implement the above-mentioned project, within the allocated budget of $100,000.

74. The Board recommended the creation of 10 awards, to be given to 5 persons/groups in Rwanda and 5 persons/groups in Burundi under the auspices of the Secretary-General, in order to reward courageous and humanitarian acts which crossed the barriers of tribal and ethnic animosity, thus making for an atmosphere more conducive to peace and coexistence. An advisory committee might be appointed for the selection of the nominees. The amount of the award suggested by the Board was US$ 500 each. The Board requested the secretariat to obtain the advice of the Legal Office to confirm if the awards could be distributed under the auspices of the Secretary-General.

75. The Board adopted a draft decision on assistance to Rwanda, under agenda item 5. For the text of the decision as adopted, see chapter I, decision 1994/5.

(h) Caribbean Human Rights Network

76. One of the members of the Board, Mr. Luis Pérez Aguirre, brought to the attention of the Board a letter dated 25 September 1994 from Ms. Wendy Singh, Director of Caribbean Human Rights Network, addressed to him in reference to a negative response of the Centre regarding funding for a seminar on "Criminal justice and the role of sentencing", to be held in Barbados from 15 to 17 September 1994 (TCB/BT2/8/Add.11).

77. The Board heard a statement by the secretariat explaining the course of action taken by the Centre in response to this request. The Board decided to request the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to cover any negative financial consequences for the organizers of the seminar.

78. The Board adopted a draft decision on the Caribbean Human Rights Network, under agenda item 5. For the text of the decision as adopted, see chapter I, decision 1994/6.

79. The Board was also notified of new requests for assistance from El Salvador, Morocco, Pakistan, Paraguay, Senegal and Zimbabwe. The action the Centre for Human Rights proposed to take in response to these requests met no objection by the Board. Concerning a request from the Arab Institute for Human Rights, the Board expressed no objection to providing further support to the Institute, although it recommended that the secretariat contact the Government of Tunisia to confirm its endorsement of the request.

80. The Board also reviewed and expressed its appreciation of the projects and activities which the Centre had carried out in 1994.

VI. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

81. At the 7th meeting, on 10 November 1994, the Board felt that in order for all technical cooperation activities to yield maximum results, the following general recommendations relating to the policy of the programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights must be taken into consideration:

(a) All needs assessments should be conducted in a comprehensive manner in order to ensure that the entire human rights situation is addressed and areas of assistance which have not been requested by the Government, are identified and made the subject of recommendations.

(b) The programme of technical assistance should address the need to promote human rights throughout all sectors of society, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

(c) Evaluation of a project should include the success of activities as well as obstacles and difficulties encountered.

(d) It should be stressed that in the movement of countries towards different economic systems existing human rights structures must not be affected in the pursuit of such systems.

(e) In the provision of technical assistance to establish an ombudsman, it should be noted that one model should not be used exclusively, but the institution should be adapted to reflect the cultural and social realities of the country concerned.

(f) In the elaboration, implementation and evaluation of a project, consultations with and the involvement of all types of non-governmental organizations should be considered.

(g) In the formulation of technical assistance activities, special attention must be given to confidence-building measures which serve to foster cohesion between conflicting groups within a specific society.

VII. PRESS CONFERENCE

82. On 9 November 1994, the Board of Trustees held a press conference with H.E. Mr. A.M. Nkubito, Minister of Justice of Rwanda. The Chairperson of the Board made a statement on the work of the second session of the Board, including its decision on the assistance to Rwanda under the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation.

VIII. REVIEW OF THE PROCEDURE OF THE VOLUNTARY FUND

83. The Board considered agenda item 6 during the 6th meeting of its second session as follow-up to the decisions made on the same subjects during its first session. Attention was drawn to the request to the Board made by the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1994/69 to establish an efficient and flexible project preparation, implementation and evaluation procedure. In this regard, the attention of the Board was drawn to the document entitled "Standard procedure for project preparation" (TCB/BT1/1/Annex 1) and to the document entitled "Projects referred to the Board of Trustees (March to present) (TCB/BT2/7).

(a) Standard procedure for project preparation

84. The Board heard statements from the secretariat describing the application of the procedure in practice in regard to the projects which had been referred to the Board since March 1994. The secretariat introduced a revised procedure for project preparation (TCB/BT2/9), which was intended to simplify the original procedure and adapt it to the need for a more efficient operation of the Fund.

85. The Board discussed its role in the consideration of the action to be taken in response to a request and in the endorsement of a project document. It was the unanimous view of the Board that it should be duly informed of and given a chance to intervene in regard to all requests for assistance received by the Centre for Human Rights. The Board also expressed its wish to be informed of the decision on the source of funding once a project had been prepared.

86. The Board reviewed step by step the proposed revised procedure, made recommendations, and decided to review the procedure further at its third session.

(b) Standard procedure for implementation and evaluation

87. The Board recommended that evaluation of projects such as country programmes be conducted regularly, at least once a year, by a team that included an external expert. The Board requested the Technical Cooperation Branch of the Centre for Human Rights to elaborate criteria for project evaluation.

88. As the responsibilities of the Board extended to the review of progress made in project implementation and of project results, in particular for multi-year programmes which required constant monitoring and securing of financial resources, the Board reiterated its request that the secretariat provide, on a regular basis, an updated list of all projects and activities to the Board.

89. The Board adopted a draft decision relating to the procedure for preparation and evaluation of projects, under agenda item 6. For the text of the decision as adopted, see chapter I, decision 1994/8.

(c) Guidelines for the formulation of the projects

90. During its first session, the Board decided that the existing guidelines, based upon UNDP guidelines, should be used until a revision was approved by the Board.

91. The secretariat informed the Board that the Branch was organizing, in cooperation with the International Training Centre of ILO at Turin, a workshop on the management of the project cycle. Professional staff of the Branch would participate in the workshop and elaborate guidelines for the formulation of projects.

IX. CRITERIA FOR PROJECT SELECTION

92. At its first session, the Board had adopted a list of "Substantive criteria and other considerations" (TCB/BT1/1/Annex 5).

93. The attention of the Board was drawn to Commission resolution 1993/87, in which the Commission had requested the Secretary-General with the assistance of the Board, to guarantee transparency of the criteria applied and of the rules of procedure to be followed in carrying out technical cooperation, as well as to Commission resolution 1994/69, in which it had urged the Board to review the existing project guidelines with a view to establishing clear criteria for selecting and defining priorities for projects.

94. The Board reviewed the criteria and decided to continue to apply them in defining priorities for projects.

95. The Board adopted a draft decision relating to the criteria, under agenda item 6. For the text of the decision as adopted, see chapter I, decision 1994/9.

X. SECRETARIAT OF THE VOLUNTARY FUND

96. During its first session, the Board requested the Technical Cooperation Branch to set up a secretariat which would provide support to the work of the Board. The Chairperson also drew attention to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/69, in which the Commission had requested the Secretary-General to provide the necessary administrative assistance for the Board to fulfil its mandate.

97. In that regard, the Board regretted that since his departure in April 1994, no successor to the previous Coordinator of the Voluntary Fund had been appointed. That absence had affected the work of the Board. In view of the additional work required for the coordination of the Fund between the secretariat and the Board, and between the secretariat and contributing Governments, as well as for coordinating fund-raising activities, the Board reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to facilitate its efforts to appoint a coordinator of the Voluntary Fund, who would also act as secretary of the Board.

98. The Board adopted a draft decision under agenda item 8. For the text of the decision as adopted, see chapter I, decision 1994/7.

XI. TELECOMMUNICATIONS EXPENSES

99. During the 4th meeting of its second session, the Board requested that telecommunications expenses relating to the work of the Board be reimbursed. A representative of the Financial Resources Management Service stated that those telecommunications expenses could be reimbursed in accordance with the principles/guidelines for reimbursement which would be prepared by the Service and transmitted to the Board.

100. The draft decision under agenda item 8 was adopted by consensus. For the text of the decision as adopted, see chapter I, decision 1994/10.

XII. DATE AND VENUE OF THE THIRD SESSION

101. The Board decided that it would hold its sessions twice a year and that the third session would in principle take place from 13 to 17 February 1995, subject to the availability of the members, to coincide with the presentation of its report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session.

102. The Board adopted a draft decision under agenda item 9. For the text of the decision as adopted, see chapter I, decision 1994/12.

XIII. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

103. On 10 November 1994, the Board considered the draft report on the work of its second session. The draft report, as amended in the course of the discussion, was adopted.

Annex I

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

SECOND SESSION (7-10 November 1994)

AGENDA

1. Opening of the session.

2. Adoption of agenda.

3. Organization of the work of the session.

4. Financial situation of the Fund.

5. Consideration of projects and related activities

   (a) Status of projects and activities;

   (b) Projects to be endorsed by the Board.

6. Review of the procedure of the Fund and criteria for project selection.

7. Role of the Board in fund-raising.

8. Other matters.

9. Date and venue of the next session.

10. Report of the Board to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session.

Date	(Mon) 7/11	(Tues) 8/11	(Wed) 9/11	(Thurs) 10/11	(Fri) 11/11
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 1, 2, 3	Item 5 (4)	Item 5	Item 8, 9, 10	10.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m. Meeting with donors
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Item 4, 7, 5	Item 5	Item 6	Item 8, 9, 10	

Annex II

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

SECOND SESSION (7-10 November 1994)

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Item 2

TCB/BT2/1	Provisional agenda
TCB/BT2/1/Add.1	Agenda annotations

Item 4

TCB/BT2/2	List of pledges and contributions to the Fund
TCB/BT2/3	Statements of accounts for each ongoing project
TCB/BT2/4	Statements of income and expenditure as prepared by Headquarters
TCB/BT2/5	Status of the Fund
TCB/BT2/6	Financial report on the regular budget

Item 5

TCB/BT2/7	Projects and related activities referred to the Board of Trustees since March 1994
TCB/BT2/8	Technical cooperation activities (new requests, projects in hand, completed projects)
TCB/BT2/8/Add.1	Project document for Burundi
TCB/BT2/8/Add.2	Project document for Malawi
TCB/BT2/8/Add.4	Project document for Mongolia
TCB/BT2/8/Add.5	Project document for Nepal
TCB/BT2/8/Add.6	Project document for the Russian Federation
TCB/BT2/8/Add.7	Evaluation report on the Arab Institute for Human Rights
TCB/BT2/8/Add.8	Request from Rwanda

Item 6

TCB/BT1/1	Report of the first session of the Board
TCB/BT1/1/Annex 1	Standard procedure for project preparation
TCB/BT1/1/Annex 5	Substantive criteria and other considerations
TCB/BT2/9	Revised procedure for project preparation
TCB/BT2/10	Report of the Office of Investigation and Inspection on administrative practices of the Centre for Human Rights and a reply of the Centre
TCB/BT3	Report on the current structures and status of the programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights

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